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# The South Amboy/Sayreville TIMES

This issue is  
dedicated in  
memory of  
William Connors  
Jim Mulvey



March 30, 2019 • The "Good News" Newspaper • Vol. 28 Issue 6



South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry presents the State of the City Address to residents on March 21. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## South Amboy State Of The City: Upgrades, Improvements And Bright Future

By Tom Burkard

On March 21st, South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry presented his State of the City Address, and it touched on the many accomplishments, upgrades, improvements, and future plans that are making the city shine above so many others throughout the state of New Jersey.

At the beginning of his address, the mayor told the crowd that "all of you will be a part of the first video recording of the State of the City Address, which will be posted on the city's TV station and website." He also mentioned other technological improvements including upgrading the fiber optic system in order to record council meeting so they may be viewed by all of South Amboy at various social media platforms. In addition, the city purchased 2 portable digital signs to be placed throughout town, and installed a permanent one in front of City Hall to better inform the public of upcoming events. The city website is constantly being updated for residents to gain better access to city information, forms, and bill paying.

Mayor Henry noted 3 very important and key position personnel changes at City Hall: new Business Administrator-Glenn Skarzynski, who has been in the post for a year, Francis "Mac" Womack is the new City Attorney, and Dan Balka is the new Chief Financial Officer. He also thanked former employees, for the work they did for residents; Stacey Kennedy, Angel Albanese, and John Lanza, who was with the city for over 30 years.

He praised the Police Department under Chief Darren LaVigne for going through some changes through a very rigorous police

Continued on page 6



South Amboy Councilwoman at Large Christine Noble (c with sash) this year's South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade Grand Marshal, stops along the parade route surrounded by family and friends, that marched with her. Congratulations Christine! See more photos on pages 27, 29 & 32. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

## South Amboy Holds Largest Parade Ever

By Tom Burkard

On Saturday, March 16th, the Irish came from everywhere to celebrate South Amboy's highly-rated St. Patrick's Day Parade. Even if you weren't of Irish descent, you were more than welcome to participate in "The Pleasant Little City's" biggest event of the year. The 2019 parade was in the words of Parade Committee Co-Chairperson Michael "Mickey" Gross, "The biggest ever with 22 bands marching, and it lasted an hour and a half." The Colonel D.B. Kelly Pipe & Drums was as always one of the most popular attractions performing, as they entertained parade-goers along the route.

Councilwoman-At-Large Christine Noble was Grand Marshal, former Fire Chief Mike Toth served as Deputy Grand Marshal, City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz- Honorary Grand Marshal, Special Honored Guest-Dr. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez, Special Honored Guest-Yolanda Flores.

Despite a little wind and chill in the air

with temps hovering around 48 degrees, the parade route was lined with wall-to-wall people throughout town, with nearly everyone sporting some kind of green clothing or hats, or just about anything green to proudly show they were Irish and celebrating the big day. A lady from Woodbridge who was at the parade with her daughter, who lived locally, said, "I love the parade because I really like the bagpipes, and seeing people walking dogs, especially the Irish Setter."

As always South Amboy was the place to be, whether hanging with friends/family, or visiting long-lost friends/ family that you haven't seen in a long time, South Amboy's St. Patrick's Parade Day is a fantastic event everyone looks forward to each year. Congratulations to all who organized this tremendous event and also everyone who participated in making this year's parade a most memorable one.



Mayor Kennedy O'Brien (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## O'Brien Will Not Seek Re-Election

By Tom Burkard

The Borough of Sayreville longest-serving mayor in history, Mayor Kennedy O'Brien, recently announced on Facebook that he will not seek re-election this year. In the post, he said, "This is my 20th year as Mayor, and it has been my high honor to have been given the responsibility to serve all the citizens of Sayreville. We have built a wonderful community we all call home." He continued, talking about his beloved wife of 32 years, and mentioned that "She was recently diagnosed with cancer, and is about to begin chemo and radiation therapy. Even in the face of adversity, Janice encouraged me to run this year for re-election. At this moment however, my place is by my wife's side, and I will sit out this re-election term. My only focus must be on the health of my wife. It is my intention, once Janice is cancer free, to return in 4 years and ask the people of Sayreville for their continued support." Mayor O'Brien graciously thanked the people of Sayreville for the support over the last 20 years, their continued prayers for Janice, and said, "I thank all the citizens of Sayreville for your faith, trust, and support you have granted me these past 20 years. It has been one of my life's greatest honors, and a very warm and humbling experience."

## SWMHS HALL OF FAME

The Sayreville War Memorial High School 2019 Hall of Fame Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for 6:00PM Saturday, April 27th, at the VFW Hall on Jernee Mill Road. Join us as we honor these outstanding alumni of SWMHS. The honorees are:

Carlo Alban, Class of 1996 - Made a career in the arts for over 25 years; Was a member of the Sesame Street cast.

Daniel Buchanan, Class of 1993 Sayreville Councilman for 10 years, Council President for 4 years; Third generation Buchanan to serve on Borough Council.

Continued on page 2

## Governor Murphy Visits YMCA



NJ Governor Phil Murphy visited the South Amboy YMCA for a press conference recently. Pictured (l-r) Congressman Frank Pallone, Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Governor Murphy, and YMCA Director of Operations Karen Robson. See story on page 3. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

Next Issue April 27th - Deadlines April 15th

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<p><b>2</b> 3 Large Cheese Pizzas 1 - 2 Liter Soda <b>\$33.99</b> (Plus Tax) With coupon only Limit 1 per customer - Exp. 6-1-19 coupons cannot be combined, use only 1 at a time Must Present Coupon At Time Of Order</p>	<p><b>4</b> Pickup Only One Large 16" Pizza (Round) <b>\$10.99</b> (Plus Tax) With coupon only Limit 1 per customer - Exp. 6-1-19 coupons cannot be combined, use only 1 at a time Must Present Coupon At Time Of Order</p>

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Washington Nationals Major League Baseball Club senior adviser Jack McKeon (c) visits with former South Amboy residents Bill Masterson (l) and his wife Carol Masterson (r) while at Spring Training in West Palm Beach, Florida. (Photo submitted)



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### College News

**Dean's/President's List (Fall Semester)**  
**Berkeley College:** (Parlin) Veronica Antonelos, Melissa Diaz, Joshua Alvarado, Shawn Esteban; (Sayreville) Maxroland Abolo, Rebecca Asiedu, Victor Urbina, Justyna Czyzak, Isadore Hawkins, Maliha Khan, Ramat Muhammed, Anabelle Rodriguez; (South Amboy) Erin Taylor, Shannon Vanallen.  
**Central Methodist University:** (Parlin) Joseph Gilmore.  
**Clemson University:** (South Amboy) Mary Whiteley (President's List, 4.0 GPA).  
**University of Connecticut:** (Sayreville) Caitlyn Hochron.  
**University of Delaware:** (Parlin) Danielle Aich, Vanessa Rodriguez; (South Amboy) Daniel Rodzik; (Laurence Harbor) Abigail Ambrosio.  
**Salisbury University:** (Parlin) Ryan Furbush.  
**University of Sciences in Philadelphia:** (Parlin) Kunal Kadakia; Mai Aly.  
**University of Scranton:** (Parlin) Brendan F. Squitieri, Megan R. Dowdell, Megan R. Scheider. Congratulations to all!

### Congratulations, Debbie!

The SA Times extends its congratulations to Debbie Kurzawa of Venetian Care and Rehabilitation on her retirement. God Bless, and enjoy Debbie!

### SWMHS continued from page 1

Mark Mills, Class of 1993 - Honors graduate, American University, Masters in Arts Management; Completed Getty Leadership Institute.  
 Dr. Carlos Vargas, Class of 2008 - Earned Ph.D. in astronomy by age 28; Mentor to undergraduate & Ph.D. students; Formed math-readiness program for underrepresented minority students in astrophysics.  
 John Worobey, Class of 1969 - Earned doctorate from Pennsylvania State University; Research authority on infant feeding, behavior, & development.  
 Banquet tickets are \$50.00 each and \$30.00 for children, with a choice of meals. For further information, call Elaine Kubacz at 732-727-0192.

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### Spaghetti Dinner/Tricky Tray

Frog Hollow will be holding its annual Spaghetti Dinner/Tricky Tray on Sunday, April 7th, at the K of C Hall, 775 Washington Rd., Parlin. The doors will open at 2:00 pm and dinner served until 6 pm, with calling of numbers for gifts at 4:30.  
 Advanced tickets can be purchased by sending a check to Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club, PO Box 3122, South Amboy, NJ 08879. Please be sure to include the number of adults and children when purchasing them.  
 Price-Adults 13 and up-\$12.00; Children 12 and under-\$7.00. The tickets can be picked up at the door the day of the dinner. Cut off for advanced tickets is March 30th. Tickets purchased at the door: Price-Adults 13 and up-\$15.00; Children 12 and under-\$10.00;  
 Children under 5-Free. Hall is handicap accessible. If you have any question, please contact Cathy Keays @ 732-947-0403

# The TIMES

The South Amboy/Sayreville Serving The Bayshore Area

The "Good News" Newspaper

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## Pleasant little TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

- The Tahiti Sun tanning business was located where in Sayreville back in 2007?  
a. Washington Rd. b. MacArthur Ave. c. Raritan St.
- In '04, where was South Amboy Taxi located?  
a. John St. b. South Broadway c. Main St.
- Who was the South Amboy Building Inspector back in 1963?  
a. Jim Coan b. Joe Kudelka c. Charles Thompson
- In 1999, this bar/restaurant was located on the corner of John St. & South Broadway in South Amboy?  
a. Harbor Lights b. Tutty Tease c. English's Pub
- Where in Sayreville was Sub Marina located?  
a. Melrose b. Morgan c. Tangletown
- New principal at St. Stan's in '99?  
a. Muriel Rosenthal b. Susan Whitburn c. Harriet Samim
- South Amboy Police Chief in 1999?  
a. Jim Wallis b. Steve Pavich c. Jim Holovacko
- Where was the Pet Garden store located in Sayreville in '99?  
a. Washington Rd. b. Raritan St. c. Main St.
- South Amboy Fire Official in 1994?  
a. Ed Szatkowski b. Chet Meinzer c. Mike Canale
- Where was Red's Barber Shop located in Sayreville?  
a. Pulaski Ave. b. Main St. c. Deerfield Rd.

Answers  
1c 2a 3b 4a 5b 6c 7c 8b 9a 10b.



**Business Of The Month**  
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**Gregory Wyzykowski, Owner of Custom Financial Strategies**

Gregory Wyzykowski owner of Custom Financial Strategies is a native of South Amboy having attended Sacred Heart grammar school and graduated from Hoffman High School. He continued his education at New Jersey Institute of Technology where he earned a bachelor of science degree in Industrial Administration. Upon graduation he joined Prudential insurance as an ordinary agent in 1983. Seeking a path of entrepreneurship left Prudential and opened his first office which was located on Broadway in South Amboy. That was in 1987 under the trade name of Gee Wiz Insurance Brokerage and provided mostly car insurance. As the insurance market changed it was time to adjust and provide new services. In 1999 he moved to present location and mostly conducted educational workshops on topics that

included Affording A College Education, Medicare Supplement Options, Protecting Retirement Assets, Reducing Taxes on Social Security Income and similar. Today as an independent agent he continues to provide multiple solutions through the many companies he is licensed to offer and their products. There is no charge for consultations or quotes.

Greg is current president of South Amboy-Sayreville Rotary Club and has been a member for over 30 years. He also has been active as a high school and college coach ranging from Division I, II & III.

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**Governor Murphy Visits South Amboy YMCA**

Governor Phil Murphy recently held a press conference at the South Amboy YMCA, and proposed a renewed Brownfields Redevelopment tax credit program as part of his vision for incentives reform. The Brownfields Tax Credit will serve to close project financing gaps in an effort to revitalize underutilized industrial properties while incentivizing the preservation of New Jersey's green spaces.

"The transformational power of New Jersey's formerly unused, contaminated industrial spaces is evident in South Amboy's Lower Broadway," said Governor Murphy. "Our Administration's reinvigorated Brownfields redevelopment tax credit will tap these vast resources, creating jobs, revitalizing communities, and recapturing the innovative spirit of New Jersey's history."

"Cleaner environments create stronger communities," said DEP Commissioner Catherine McCabe. "Brownfield redevelopment turns liabilities into thriving assets that improve the community and protect New Jersey's environment."

"Governor Murphy's vision for a Stronger and Fairer Economy prioritizes making catalytic investments in New Jersey communities, particularly in our cities and

downtowns, which so often bear the legacy costs of industrial activity in the brownfields that inhibit development," said Tim Sullivan, CEO of the NJ EDA. "With this critical tax credit program, New Jersey will be able to put more of these sites back to productive reuse that will create jobs, attract private investment and fuel the innovation economy."

"Spurring economic development and the creation and retention of jobs is vital to the growth of our state," said Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin. "As we work together to make investments in infrastructure, education and our communities, I look forward to working with Governor Murphy to ensure the revitalization of neighborhoods through redevelopment initiatives."

New Jersey's current Brownfields program co-administered by the Economic Development Authority, Department of Environmental Protection, and Division of Taxation. The State appropriated \$14.8 million to the Brownfield Site Reimbursement Fund in FY2019. Under Governor Murphy's proposed legislation, appropriated funds would be phased out and replaced by competitive grant opportunities administered by the EDA and DEP.



American Legion Lenape Post 211 Honor Guard presented the Colors at the Middlesex County Republican Committee Convention held on March 16 at the Sayreville War Memorial High School. In the photo (l-r) Past Commander Ed Streck, Past Commander Rich Kosmoski, Frank Terzino, Frank Sullivan, Dave Pawski, and Joel Bloom. (Photo/Info Submitted)

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Florence M. Swiderski (c) of Sayreville celebrated her 100th birthday with son Jim Swiderski (l) and daughter Jean Bailey (r). (Photo/article submitted).

**Florence M. Swiderski, 100 Years Young**

Florence Matts Swiderski celebrated her 100th birthday on Saturday, February 16th, with a party at her home with her family. Florence was raised in South River and moved to Sayreville after marrying her husband Henry Swiderski, who passed away in 1992. She has two children, Jean Bailey and Jim Swiderski, 8 grandchildren, 10 great

grandchildren, 6 great-great grandchildren and a kid sister Grace Pickering who is 95 years old. Before retiring 50 years ago she worked at Johnson and Johnson in the Personal Products division. Florence was born 10 days before the Grand Canyon was established as a National Park!

**Yearbook-Sayreville 1969**

By Tom Burkard

It's hard to believe but it's been 50 years since the Sayreville War Memorial High School Class of '69 bid adieu to their alma mater. The wild 60's were close to an end, as freedom, rebellion and change in all phases of society seemed to dominate the front pages in daily newspapers, and the Vietnam War raged on. As the seniors reported for the first day of their final year in Sept., '68, great songs like "People Got To Be Free," "Hello I Love You," and "Born To Be Wild," could be heard on all the top radio stations. Some of the top teachers at SWMHS were: Maureen Shoemaker, J.H. Haley, John Ciszewski, Irene Arthur, John Felton. John Gutkowski was AD. The Student Council was comprised of Art Spiro-President; Lynn Mytnick-Vice President; Barbara Bosley-Sec.; Nancy Cipo-Treas. Sr. Class officers were Patricia Hubbs President; Richard Strugala-Vice President; Janet Hunkele-Sec.; Kathleen Olszewski Treas. And on the world scene, rumors that Paul McCartney was dead flooded the news media. Gail Sunski was President of the National Honor Society; Colette Dohn was President of the Future Teachers of America Club; John Hickey was Editor-In-Chief of Echo Lites; Greg Evigan, although not a senior, was the Drum Major. The Annual Junior-Senior Musical, "Kiss Me Kate," was a real crowd pleaser and ran from April 24-26, 1969 before sold-out crowds.

Kathy Curtis, Pat Delia, David Farrell, William Flannery, William Fleming, Robert Gaspertich, Gary George, Stanley Grzes, Richard Hackett, Michael Hannon, Christine Harkins, Brian Kreiger, Kenneth Lyon, John Murphy, Penny Nowak, Roseann O'Grady, Joanne Parkstrom, Linda Petzel, William Presnal, Robert Pritchard, Janet Roser, John Salge, Steve Sauer, Judy Saunders, Judy Seaman, Buddy Seibert, Dan Sinnor, Robert Smith, Dennis Sommers, Carmen Spezzi, John Thorsen, Tom Tighe, Rod Timmons, Shawn Townsend, Michael Turlik, Sharon Wiggins, Andrew Wilson, Ed Yanoski, John Bielak, Susan Harrigan, Dolores Kwiecinski, Terrence Healy, Susan Mathisen. Let's take a moment to remember the deceased, William Fleming, John Bielak, Louie Kuc, Brian "Bucky" Conochan, Jess Dehnz, Raymond Godley. I can't believe I knew that many Sayreville 69ers!

I was blessed to know many of the Sayreville '69 grads. I attended St. Mary's Grammar School with some, and others attended SMHS for a year or two before transferring. The ones I've known through either school, sports, or just from living in the area back then are: Thomas Armstrong, William Beattie, George Beck, Arthur Birmingham, Gretchen Brown, Linda Carney, Peter Coakley, Gail Conway, George Cozzi,

The sports program was fabulous, and the baseball club under Coach John Wortley finished with a super (20-7) record. Gary George was captain of the baseball nine, and also co-captain of the football squad with Tom Krasovich. Sayreville's first Field Hockey team in history finished (5-2-1) under Coach Marcia Westaby. Some of the standout senior athletes included: Gary George-1st Team All-County football, Ken Lyon, Greg Marzullo, Francis "Frank" Olszewski-1st Team All-County baseball pitcher, John Thorsen, Brian Kreiger.

One has to wonder how St. Mary's athletic teams would have done if these gifted performers had continued on and played at SMHS.

Sayreville War Memorial HS Class of '69 was off the charts in so many ways. This was an ultimate class with really fine people.

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Former South Amboy resident and Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, addresses the crowd at a press conference in South Amboy. Governor Phil Murphy listens intently, and YMCA Director of Operations Karen Robson is pictured on the right. (Photo by Tom Burkard)





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**State Of The City** continued from page 1

accreditation process with the purpose of improving the professionalism of the South Amboy Police Dept., and included rewriting and enacting the rules and regulations along with the policies and procedures. "The result is to elevate our department to Best Practice Standards which makes for a first class delivery of services to the citizens of South Amboy." In December, a team from New Jersey State Chiefs of Police Association visited South Amboy, audited records, viewed the communication center and radio system, inspected all functions, and more, while holding interviews with various personnel from the police department. No deficiencies were found and the city was awarded a formal certificate indicating that distinction. The mayor thanked Chief LaVigne, Sgt. Holovacko, and Sgt. Kanecke for helping to make this a success. He also introduced new officers, Timothy Kales, Patrick Kelly, and Gloriann Rutkowski. Henry said, "I wish to thank the entire police force and their families for being our peacekeepers and keeping us safe."

The mayor spoke about the value of homes in town, saying, "The median cost of a house in South Amboy today is \$278,000, an increase of almost 11% from last year. Next year's projection is another increase of 8% to \$304,000, a very good return on your investment." In 2017, municipal taxes increased by 1 cent or \$27 for the year. In 2018, taxes also increased by 1 cent. In 2017, the city generated a surplus of \$2.3 million, and in 2018-\$2.4 million. As a result, Standard & Poor Global Rating upgraded South Amboy's rating 2 notches from A- to A+.

Recently, Mayor Henry presented a municipal budget to the city council, and they voted to introduce it with 0% increase. He went on to thank Public Works Superintendent Len Moffa and his fine crew for their excellent work, and mentioned the new bulk pickup system that has collected 90 tons of bulk garbage to date.

City Engineer Mark Rasimowicz has spearheaded many projects around the city, and also helped South Amboy get \$1,623,500 in grants, an incredible savings for taxpayers. Henry thanked Freeholder Director Ron Rios for his and the Freeholders efforts to get Middlesex County and Conrail to repair the Hole-In-The-Wall, and also lower Main Street a county road, which has been in need of repairs for a long time.

Mayor Henry mentioned Governor Murphy's visit to South Amboy last week, and how he praised the city and developer who turned a very contaminated piece of land into a rehab/health center in Venetian, a rec area in the YMCA, and beautiful residential development in Woodmont Cove. Henry called Woodmont "our Michaelangelo turning a rejected, contaminated area into a masterpiece for South Amboy." He thanked Steve Santola and the Woodmont team, Eric Chubenko, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency, and Craig Coughlin, the agency's lawyer. The mayor said, "We have taken dormant, fallow, and contaminated land and changed it into a vibrant and living part of South Amboy. We now have Woodmont Cove, Venetian Healthcare, YMCA, Ryan Homes, the county park, Lighthouse Bay, a beautiful Middle/High School, and library, and Shoregate." He also introduced new Chairwoman of the Planning Board, Mary Szaro.

The PILOT program will revitalize what was McCormack Sand property, and an area along the waterfront that generated few tax dollars. Three renewable energy companies are extremely interested in the old power plant property. If negotiations are successful, it will provide jobs and another ratable for South Amboy.

City officials expect to have a shovel in the ground by September for the ferry project, and an operational ferry in the spring of 2020. Mayor Henry also praised the Historical Society of South Amboy, and mentioned activities they provided for the community last year, and an update on this year's coming events, while thanking President Mary Szaro for her nostalgic pictures shown at the State of the City Address.

The free summer program has expanded an extra 2 weeks and a third park was added. Volunteer leaders and coaches were thanked for all of their help.

This July South Amboy will again partner with Perth Amboy and Mayor Diaz to put on another spectacular fireworks display in Raritan Bay. The mayor thanked Co-Chairs Barry Rosengarten and Mickey Gross, and the fireworks committee.

The Green Team and Clean Community programs are getting underway with coordinator Jay Elliot organizing 2 beach cleanups this summer. The city has received thousands of dollars in grants for this project, and purchased a tractor and a rake to keep the beach clean, so more activities can take place there.

Senior programs continue to thrive, and summer trips have been expanded, seminars such as anti-scam presentations are conducted, and seniors are still taken to doctor visits within 10 miles of South Amboy. Kerry, Jackie and staff were thanked for their efforts.

The Municipal Alliance is up and running and the pre-teen dances have been a great success. Other planned events will include anti-drug and alcohol use and abuse seminars. The Sadie Pope Dowdell Library continues to provide education and entertainment. Everyday something new is happening at the library. He thanked Library Director Elaine Gaber and her very helpful staff. The library's 105th Birthday celebration is on March 28th.

Mayor Henry thanked Business Association President Jorge Gonzalez and Councilman Tom Reilly for their efforts "to make our business district successful." The fire department and first aid squad received high praise and appreciation from the mayor, and he asked if any young people would like to give back to their community and join the First Aid, which is growing smaller. He thanked Fire Chief Brian Tierney, First Aid President Gene Cox, and OEM Coordinator Mark Herdman, and all volunteers for their dedication and sacrifice they make to keep residents safe.

He congratulated all the honorees of the St. Patrick's Day Parade especially Grand Marshal Christine Noble, Irishman of the Year, Bill Henry, Mickey Gross and the entire Parade Committee "who put in a lot of hard work to make this a great day for South Amboy."

Kathy Kudelka, the mayor's secretary was thanked for all she does, "above and beyond what needs to be done." He also acknowledged former Business Administrator Camille Tooker, who has taken on the role of Confidential Aide to the Mayor. He said "the man with the most thankless job is our current Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski, but I know what you do, and I thank you for keeping South Amboy on the move."

Others thanked by the mayor were his city council members: President Mickey Gross, Vice President Christine Noble, 1st Ward Councilman Brian McLaughlin, 2nd Ward Councilman Tom Reilly, 3rd Ward Councilwoman Zusette Dato.

Mayor Henry also thanked his family members: his wife Linda, daughter Kristen and her husband Daniel, and their child Elise Ann, daughter Erin, and son Fred III and his fiancée Anny.

**Fiesta De San Gennaro Sept 12**

Sacred Heart Seniors are running a trip to the Staten playhouse in Staten Island to enjoy the Fiesta San Gennaro Thursday September 12. Cost of \$98 includes round trip motor coach transportation, Italian music, one hour open bar, and one hour wine hour. A 3 course lunch, fresh garden salad, dessert, coffee and tea is included. For more information, call Judy at 732-727-0154.

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

Lord, you invited all who are burdened to come to You. Allow your healing hand to heal me. Touch my soul with Your compassion for others. Touch my heart with Your courage and infinite love for all. Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that my mouth may always proclaim Your praise. Teach me to reach out to You in my need. Help me to lead others to You by my example. Most loving heart of Jesus, bring me health in my body and spirit so that I may serve You with all my strength. Touch gently with this life that you have created. Amen -S.R..





Our Lady of Victories School held its annual Designer Handbag Bingo event on February 22nd. Pictured (l-r) HSA President Jackie Gluchowski, Mayor Kennedy O'Brien and Father Ryan. (Photo/Info Submitted)

### OLV Senior Christmas Trip to Lancaster

The OLV Senior Group is planning a Christmas trip to Lancaster on November 6 -7, 2019. The cost of the trip is \$360.00 which includes a delicious lunch on day 1 at Shady Maple where you can fit in some pre-Christmas shopping. Next, the group will enjoy a matinee at the American Music Theater's show, Joy to the World. There will be a late check at the Fulton Steamboat Inn with dinner at the restaurant. Guests can then enjoy the amenities of the

hotel. On day two there will be a late check out after breakfast. Shopping at the outlets is the next item of fun. Lunch will be on your own. Bus pick-up at the outlets will bring you to the afternoon show at Sight and Sound, the Miracle of Christmas. After the show the group will enjoy a family style dinner at Hershey Farm Restaurant before returning home. For further information or to reserve a seat please call Teri at 732-742-1320.

### Congratulations!



Amboy Bank South Amboy Branch Manager Mariola Jones retired after 7 years at the position in South Amboy, after spending a total of 10 years with Amboy Bank. Mariola was highly-respected and very popular with bank clients during her years in "The Pleasant Little City." She said that, "I love what I do and love our clients, and will miss them dearly. I am grateful to Amboy Bank, especially Greg Scharf for their help and support when I needed it the most. Our clients in South Amboy were very good, and not only my clients, but they became my friends, and I will miss them very much." What are Mariola's plans for her retirement? She said she will sell her New Jersey home and move to Pennsylvania to be closer to her daughter, and also care for her 94-year old mother. Mariola also plans to keep busy finishing the restoration on her home in Pennsylvania, take a trip to Europe, and also relax by painting, her favorite hobby. Paresh Shah, one of her South Amboy branch bank tellers said, "She was an excellent manager and here a long time. She knew all the customers, and we will miss her a lot. She was liked by everyone." Mariola Jones truly left a positive mark on anyone who had the opportunity to meet her. She was most helpful and friendly to all, and will always be remembered for her kindness and caring to clients of Amboy Bank. Have a wonderful, healthy and enjoyable retirement, and thank you for everything, Mariola!



South Amboy Elks National Foundation Gratitude grant donated \$2000.00 and a Certificate of Excellence to the Renovation House in Perth Amboy. This is to help support the Drug & Alcohol Rehabilitation Program. In photo from left to right are Honorable Mayor of Perth Amboy Wilda Diaz, Elks Drug Awareness Chairwoman Jeanine Sieber, Pastor of Renovation House Paul Sears, Lodge ENF Chairman Valentine Tarr, & Special Project Coordinator at Renovation House, Dean Minelli. (Photo/Info Submitted)

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## "Gold Star" Local Kids Treated To Disney

(Photos/story submitted)

Lena and Gavin Perry, 7 and 6 year old siblings, were treated to a trip to Disney World in December. But it wasn't because they had a good report card or just wanted to see Mickey Mouse with their parents. It is because they are part of an elite group known as Gold Star Families: their father, John Perry, was a hero who was killed in action in Afghanistan.

The trip, known as "Snowball Express" was a gift of the Gary Sinise Foundation, founded by the actor who played Lieutenant Dan in the movie "Forrest Gump." The chief executive officer of the foundation, retired Air Force General Robin Rand said, "Through the Snowball Express program, we have the opportunity to serve the families of our fallen military heroes who have sacrificed so much for our great nation."

More than 1,000 children whose parents died in military service traveled from numerous airports around the country, to meet at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida for five days of fun and festivities. As Gary Sinise puts it, the children and other survivors can "build bonds with the only people who can truly understand their loss: each other." Besides enjoying Epcot and the Magic Kingdom, there were somber moments as well. Each family had a flag on display

with their loved one's name on it, as a place to reflect and remember. But tears were soon changed to smiles when the families were able to parade into the park to meet their favorite characters and go on rides.

Staff Sergeant John William Perry grew up in South River and attended St. Stan's School in Sayreville. It was there that he met a girl who would years later become his wife, Julianne Good, daughter of his third grade teacher. He joined the Army in 2008 and married Julianne later that year. Their daughter Lena was born in Sayreville, while her dad was on his first deployment to Afghanistan. Gavin was born in Colorado, when John was stationed at Fort Carson. They then purchased a home near Fort Hood Texas, where the family still resides.

SSG Perry was tragically killed by a suicide bomber at Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan on November 12, 2016, just days after his 30th birthday. Besides his children, wife and dogs Kaden and Silas, he left behind many local aunts, uncles, cousins and friends who mourn his loss. Lena and Gavin's grandparents include Edna Mazur Pilch and her husband Stan, from Sayreville, and Kathy Fazekas Perry (SSG Perry's mother) from Old Bridge, who accompanied them on the Disney adventure.

## Creative Art Contest For Sayreville Students

A Creative Art Contest for Sayreville students hosted by Sayreville Shade Tree Commission will be held on May 3 from 6-9 p.m. at the Sayreville Senior Center. Light refreshments will be served.

We are looking for students of all ages (including adults) to express what a tree means and represents to them. Whether a favorite tree, a memory involving a tree, the beauty of a tree, whatever the passion we want you to show us through art. We hope that this challenge inspires our youth to get involved and show just how amazing Sayreville really is.

Categories: Elementary (Grades K-5); Middle School (Grades 6-8); High School (Grades 9-12); Three Dimensional; Adult

Only (18 and over); Group Project. Prizes will be awarded in each category at the event.

Please notify the Shade Tree Commission by April 22, if you will participate or you need additional information at: Phone: 732-814-9964; Email: heather.sayrevilleshadetree@gmail.com; Facebook: @sayrevilleshadetree.

## Easter Egg Hunt

Messiah Lutheran Church Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held 10AM, Saturday, April 20th on church grounds.

Refreshments being served afterwards in our fellowship room. Please bring your children for some good fun! All are welcome. Messiah Lutheran Church 3091 Bordentown Road Parlin, NJ.

## Champions!



The Sayreville Rebels soccer team is pictured after winning the SOFIVE championship at the Meadowlands. Congratulations to all! The Sayreville Soccer Club will be holding registration. Go to: www.sayrevillesoccerclub.com to register for the 2019 season. (Photo/info submitted)





The Pete Kenny Association honored the 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshal Christine Noble (c), 2019 Irish Person of the Year Michael Green (r), and 2019 Parade Princess Erin Noble (l). Congratulations from The South Amboy-Sayreville Times! (Photo/info by Joe Lotkowitz)

### Noble Chosen Woman Of The Year

South Amboy Councilwoman-At-Large, Christine Noble was recently honored by the Pete Kenny Association at its 2019 Woman of the Year. The luncheon, which was held at the Shamrock Inn also presented the 2019 Princess of the Year award to Erin Noble, and the Outstanding Achievement award to Michael Green. Congratulations to Christine, Erin, and Michael!

### 5K for Veterans

On Sunday May 5 the Old Bridge-Sayreville Rotary Club will be sponsoring a 5K for Veterans Housing with all proceeds going to benefit veterans housing efforts. The Kids Fun Run will begin at 9:00am and the 5K Race will begin at 9:30am. Sign-up early (before May 4) and contribute \$15 for the Kids Fun Run and \$25 for the 5K. Sign-up day of (May 5) and contribute \$20 for the Kids Fun Run and \$30 for the 5K. The location will be the Sayreville Sports Complex at 441 Bordentown Avenue Sayreville, NJ 08872. Please contact Jonathan Massey at 732-326-4913 or [jmassey@envisionsf.biz](mailto:jmassey@envisionsf.biz) with any inquiries or if you would like to sponsor the race. Register at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Sayreville/5kTrailRunforVeteransHousing> Come out to have some fun while helping the Rotary Club honor our brave veterans this May 5th!

### OLV Senior Trip to Princeton

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to tour Princeton. The price of the trip is \$145.00 which includes a guided tour of Princeton University, Drumthwacket, the Governor's mansion, and Morven Museum. Also included is a 3 course lunch at Winberie's, motor coach transportation, driver gratuity, taxes and gratuity. For further information or to make a reservation, please contact Finita at 732-721-5081.



Congratulations to the five OLV 8th grade students who made it to the final round of the National Geographic GeoChallenge, which is a national competition. The students pictured in no particular order are Nicholas James, Dean Krakowski, Amy Krakowski, Aidan Delaney, Romari Ebu. Science teacher Joann Hockenjos is (third from right).

### OLV Students Advance In National Competition

Five OLV students created a plan to reduce the use of plastics in our waterways. The GeoChallenge Regional competition took place at Elms College in Chicopee, MA on March 29. At the regional competition, invited GeoChallenge teams were appraised and participated in a GeoChallenge Showcase. Results were too late for this issue, and will be mentioned in the next SA Times on April 27. (Photo/article submitted)

The GeoChallenge is an annual themed and standards-based competition from the National Geographic Society that challenges student groups in grades five through eight across the United States to develop a creative solution to a real-world problem.

Students form teams—between four and six people—and respond to a problem, challenge, or critical issue by using research, collaboration, creativity, and communication to create and present real-world solutions, just like National Geographic Explorers. Teams with the best projects can advance to the regional and national levels.

The 2018-19 GeoChallenge—Tackling Plastic!—invited students to investigate the urgent issue of plastic pollution in our waterways.

Teams of students used important skills such as teamwork, research, innovation, critical thinking, and persuasive communication to work on this challenge while:

- Learning about watersheds and plastics in our lives and communities
- Telling a fact-based story about a plastics pollution problem and solution
- Designing and creating a map that shows the plastic pollution problem
- Creating a solution to prevent plastics from polluting our waterways
- Producing a dynamic video about their solutions



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## D.A.R.E Program Receives Elks Grant



South Amboy Elks National Foundation Gratitude grant of \$2000.00 and Certificate is awarded to the South Amboy Police D.A.R.E program, for the purchase of "Fatal Vision" goggles, for the students to truly understand what it's like when people make the wrong decision to drink and drive. In the photo from left are, South Amboy Elks National Foundation Chairman, Valentine Tarr, Sgt. Daniel Holovacko, & Drug Awareness Chairwoman Jeanine Sieber. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## March In Like Lion

By Steve Schmid

We enjoyed a mild winter this season with above average temperatures and below average snowfall. March however came in like a lion this year as three inches of snow fell on Saturday, March 2, and 4 more inches fell on Monday, March 4. The snow events forced the closing of Raritan Bay Waterfront Park and created a snow day for students and

teachers in the area. A cold snap kept the snow on the ground all week before rain and warming temperatures melted it away. We picked up more snow in March than during December, January, and February combined. The good news is that April is right around the corner with the promise of longer days and more spring flowers.

## Easter Bunny Brunch April 14

South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council 426 hold their Brunch with the Easter Bunny Sunday, April 14 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will be held at the K of C at 308 Fourth St., South Amboy. Bring your

cameras to take pictures with the Easter Bunny. There will also be an Easter Egg Hunt. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$3 for children aged 2 to 12. Children under 2 are free. For more information call 732-721-2025.

## Lenten Fish Fry

OLV Knights of Columbus Columbiettes Lenten Fish Fry in the Victorian Hall 775 Washington Rd., Parlin. Flounder Platters (Baked/Fried), Shrimp Combo Platters, Salad

Bar, Children's Dinners, Desserts, Coffee & Tea. 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Dates: 3/6, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29, 4/5, 4/12 & 4/19. Take Out available, 732-257-2061.

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The dog days are over—well, the Year of the Dog days, at least. This Lunar New Year, which begins on February 5th, the Dowdell Library is working to ensure that the Year of the Pig, typified by prosperity and good fortune, proves auspicious for all of its patrons.

For over a century, the Dowdell Library has served as a cornerstone of South Amboy, working tirelessly on behalf of all the city's residents. Much has changed since the South Amboy Women's Club first opened the library's doors, but one thing remains the same: your local library is here to serve YOU.

First, the matter of that New Year... So, how does your library work to promote your good fortune? We're sure you know the Dowdell contains tens of thousands of books, but it's far more than a literary warehouse! Alongside the books, the Dowdell's boasts a collection of over 4,000 DVDs and BluRay discs for adults and 1,600 discs for children! The Dowdell also hosts a loaning video game collection that includes titles for the PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, Nintendo Wii, and Nintendo Wii U. Every Friday, a different console is set up in Sadie's Studio, the library's children's room and STEAM makerspace, for public use.

If you prefer to stream content, Hoopla, the library's digital streaming service of choice, offers its own library of thousands of movies and television shows to all library cardholders. Do you prefer ebooks and audiobooks to the dead tree variety? No problem! With Overdrive, a digital catalog containing millions of text and audiobooks, patrons can access these materials on any device at any time. Hoopla also features a wealth of audiobooks, comics, and music available for free download on a monthly basis.

Do you prefer magazines to longer books and videos? RBDigital, the Dowdell's digital magazine services, offers dozens of magazines viewable on computers, tablets,

cell phones, and other mobile devices! From The New Yorker to Family Handyman, this service truly offers something for everybody.

Even when the library is closed, patrons can access a slew of other digital resources through the Dowdell's webpage. Whether you're looking for homework help, health information, news, or academic research, the online databases available via JerseyClicks are available 24/7 from any internet-connected device! Use Consumer Reports prior to making major purchases; consult a wealth of business resources via EBSCO's Business Source Elite, Regional Business News, and Small

Business Reference Center databases; or dig through four centuries of military and government documentation in the Military and Government Collection.

And the list goes on! Looking to learn a new language? The Dowdell offers over thirty options via Rosetta Stone! Need help finding a new job? Put your library card to use with the Dowdell's Job & Career Accelerator. Get to the next level of your career by taking advantage of your local library's test proctoring services or prepare yourself for college admissions with a bevy of free resources. Looking for that tax form? The library has it waiting for you! Did you know the Dowdell even offers fax notary services? Just call ahead to make your appointment with either of our registered staff members.

Need help troubleshooting or learning to use your computer, phone, tablet, e-reader, or other device? Stop by the library! Our ongoing Digital Café program offers tech assistance three times weekly: Mondays and Wednesdays from 12pm to 2pm, and Thursdays from 6:30pm to 8pm. Even if you don't have a device of your own, the Dowdell encourages you to attend its Adult Tech Corner. Every Thursday from 6:30pm to 7:30pm, a knowledgeable librarian reviews a new tech topic!



On March 25th the NJ Assembly recognized and honored the St Patrick's Day Parade Grand Marshals from around the state including South Amboy. Pictured (L-R) are South Amboy's 2019 honorees. Honorary Grand Marshal Mark Rasimowicz, Grand Marshal Christine Noble and Deputy Grand Marshal Mike Toth. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## 6TH ANNUAL - JAMMIN FOR JACLYN BENEFIT CONCERT

An annual benefit for those fighting cancer. We offer a FREE hot and cold buffet from over 60 eateries, 10 Live Bands, a 50/50, a door prize and a cash bar for just a \$25 minimum donation at the door. (Adults only). This year our two beneficiaries are Christina Davis & Carl Palestrini of Sayreville, both fighting cancer. It is on April 27th, 2019 at the Knights of Columbus in (Parlin) SAYREVILLE NJ, 08859, (775 Washington Road) from 3:30pm-Midnight. (Bar is open until 2am) \*Tickets purchasable at the door.

Walsh 3:45-4:10, Patsy Palma 4:20-4:40, Levy Okun 4:50-5:10, Amber Morgan 5:20-5:40, Jake Tavill & Indigo Soul 5:55-6:40, the FOG 6:55-7:35, Rocco & The MOB 7:50-8:40, Nick Ryan Band 8:55-9:55, Taylor Tote Band 10:10-11:00, Michael Squillace (Featured throughout the night)

\*Audio Services Provided By Jason Portizo of JTPAudio \*EMCEE: Tom Hanley of Jersey Rock WRAT 95.9FM TO MAKE DONATIONS OR CONTACT FOUNDERS: Denise Morgan, Ron Morgan, Michael Squillace 732-525-9536

This years Featured Artists: John

We would love to hear from you!



or



or







John Kobiernicki

## SA Times Spotlight: John Kobiernicki

By Tom Burkard

Remember St. Mary's Grammar School? Through the years, the school located on South Stevens Ave. and Second St. in South Amboy, served as a learning institution for thousands of youngsters from kindergarten through eighth grade, and now after a few different changes, it is the St. Mary Religious Education Program run under the watchful eyes of Director of Religious Education, John Kobiernicki, who was appointed to the position on September 1, 2018 after serving as Confirmation Instructor since 2009.

The last time the St. Mary sign was seen out in front of the building was in 2007, when St. Mary School closed its doors for the final time. Sacred Heart School took over the location from 2012-2016 before closing, and now the St. Mary's Religious Education Program is doing amazing things under Kobiernicki's guidance. The dedicated director started the St. Mary Youth Group in 2014, which is still going strong, and under his guidance runs fundraisers twice a year "To fund kids youth-related activities. It's so important getting youngsters to be more active doing recreational activities, spiritual, and community service."

The Director position entails many important job responsibilities including: hiring catechists; mentoring and developing catechists; background checks; registration for students; sacramental preparation for Reconciliation, Communion, and Confirmation; assisting teachers as needed; finding and retaining quality catechists; and much, much more.

The St. Mary Religious Education Program has an enrollment of 150 students from South Amboy and Sayreville, broken into two groups from grades 1-5, and also grades 6-8, and they meet once every week for meetings, which run an hour and a half. Many of these youngsters participate in the St. Mary Youth Group as well.

### NEW FEDERAL AGENT APPOINTED

(Story submitted)

On February 21, 2019 Joseph M. Pizzillo of Parlin, graduated from 7-months of extensive training for the US State Department with the Diplomatic Security Service. This intensive training started at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in Georgia for 4 months and continued for 3 months in West Virginia for the specialty security training all DSS agents must attend. Upon graduation, Joseph is assigned to the San Francisco, California Field Office.

Joseph graduated from St. Mary's High School in South Amboy in 2005. After graduation he attended Norwich Military University in Northfield, Vermont. At Norwich he participated in the Corps of Cadets with the United State Marine Corps. Upon graduation from Norwich he was Commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the Marine Corps. Joseph served 7 years as a Marine Infantry Officer. During his enlistment Joseph was deployed several times to the Middle East and Eastern Europe. During his commission he advanced to the rank of Captain.

The Diplomatic Security Service is the law enforcement arm of the US State Department. It is the only US law enforcement agency with representatives stationed in nearly every county in the world.

If you attend Mass at St. Mary's, you've probably noticed some very young "ushers" passing the collection basket and taking up the gifts to be offered. Well, John Kobiernicki came up with this great idea, and oversees the youth partaking in this important phase of spiritual and community service. The students are also involved with reunions and student-assisted Masses at St. Mary Church.

John said, "I am a product of the Catholic School system, and happy to be able to give back and inspire children to grow in faith, and as they embark on the next chapter of their lives." He is also very proud that there are 12 new altar servers, and 3 of this year's Confirmation sponsors were students of his. Kobiernicki mentioned that "students do not have to pay for Diocesan Youth Day, as they raise the money from fundraisers." A very popular fundraiser is the cake sale, that the students run throughout the year, in back of the church following Masses. The fundraisers not only help the children, but if you look at the statue of the Blessed Mother near the front of St. Mary Church, it was beautifully painted, thanks to the funds that John and the students raised and saved for 3 years.

Kobiernicki was Associate Counselor of Kappa Delta Pi-National Education Honor Society at Mercer County Community College from 2008-2018, and also worked at Cheesequake State Park for 22 years, serving under Superintendent Al Gomolka for 12 of those years. Gomolka had high praise for John, saying, "He was extremely dependable with an excellent work ethic."

John Kobiernicki puts his heart and soul into this job every single day, and is really dedicated to the youth of St. Mary Parish, and cares that they are heading in the right direction in life. He summed it up by saying, "It is so nice to see the multiple successes the children are achieving."

Great job John! Keep it up!

Their main mission is to protect the Secretary of State daily and when traveling anywhere in the United States and foreign countries. The DSS Agents also provide security to the ambassador's stationed at embassies in all countries that the US has ties to. They also provide security to dignitaries visiting the United States. The DSS motto is "Protecting Americans All Over the World."

Joseph has embarked on an interesting and dangerous career. This endeavor will take him to far-off places, some nice and probably some not so nice. His job will be to put himself in harm's way to protect the person or persons he is assigned to. We wish him Good Luck and may God Protect him and his fellow DSS Agents.

### Golf Outing

The Sayreville Engine Co. 5th Annual Golf Outing will be in full swing on Friday, April 26, 2019 at Pebble Creek Golf Club. Breakfast, a buffet lunch, beverages and awards ceremony is included. Tee time will be at 9:00 AM and is a shotgun start. For further information, please contact: Charlie Boyko at (732) 390-7069 or FAX: (732) 390-6163 or email us @ sfdenginecompany1@gmail.com

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## Viva La Difference!!!!

By Elaine Holton Scott

Many of us are old enough to remember the low rumble of the Feminist Movement at its inception in the '60s, and the loud roar of the Feminist Movement in the '70s, when Bella Abzug and Gloria Steinem became household names. In 1968, the movement had started to be helped along by the Phillip Morris commercial slogan, "You've come a long way, baby"...which became a marketing sensation while giving "the Movement" a very stylish and somewhat defiant attitude. By the time Helen Reddy released her hit song, "I Am Woman" in 1972, more young females began questioning why they weren't treated by society as equals to men. Equality with men...that's really what the Feminist Movement had wanted. Since then, we really have come "a long way, baby," but for some reason, gaining equality isn't enough for everyone. Seems the goal of an ever-increasing number is to totally "dismiss" the differences between both genders. It just can't be done. It really doesn't matter if hospitals stop using male and female pronouns for newborns, or stop using pink and blue blankets to denote an infant's gender. That's all just a waste of time. Male and female bodies are different, the way we move, talk, and laugh are different. Even the way we think is different, as we're able to use both sides of our brains while males usually use one side of the brain at a time. Straight as an arrow; that's how men think. In strength, there is no comparison. The average male in his prime is 8 to 10 times stronger in upper body strength than the average female in her prime. Since the beginning of humankind, men and women have been "different"; that's just the way it is.

So, here, I am wanting to applaud the

### Local Author Writes New Book For Children

Author Tama Blake breaks into the children's book scene with a charming tale about a unique Siamese kitten's adoption adventure in the book, *Ziggy the Rescue Kitty Gets a New Home*.

Throughout the scenes in the story readers learn about the animal adoption process and the importance of it, which were the main themes Tama aimed to address in *Ziggy the Rescue Kitty Gets a New Home*.

"You don't need to spend a lot of money to get a great kitten, cat or puppy or dog they are available at your local shelter. Pedigree or not you can find your special pet through adoption," she says.

This is a beautiful story with colorful illustrations, *Ziggy the Rescue Kitty Gets a New Home* will keep children coming back for more and perhaps even begging their parents to adopt a new furry friend.

### Palm Crosses Sale Fundraiser

A fundraiser sale of Palm Crosses is being held for St. Mary Church. Each cross is \$10, and please make checks out to "St. Mary Church." To order, enclose your payment along with your name and phone number in an envelope, and send to the parish office or drop in the collection basket. Mark

### "Sisters in Service" Dinner

On March 31, the OLV Columbiettes will hold the 13th Annual "Sisters in Service" dinner at the Knights of Columbus Victorian Hall, 775 Washington Rd, Parlin. This dinner is given in order to recognize/honor Religious Sisters for their community service & the many ways they have touched our lives. This is our opportunity to give a little something back to them. Fr. Ken Murphy will be celebrating Mass at 4 p.m. & dinner will follow immediately. If you would like to join us or you know of a Sister we can reach out to invite, please contact Pat 732-238-5752 or Diane 732-254-8896. Cost - Adult \$10 - Child - \$6.

#### A PRAYER FOR HEALING

Lord, you invited all who are burdened to come to You. Allow your healing hand to heal me. Touch my soul with Your compassion for others. Touch my heart with Your courage and infinite love for all. Touch my mind with Your wisdom, that my mouth may always proclaim Your praise. Teach me to reach out to You in my need. Help me to lead others to You by my example. Most loving heart of Jesus, bring me health in my body and spirit so that I may serve You with all my strength. Touch gently with this life that you have created. Amen -T.B.

role of the male, the way it was; the way it is; and the way it'll always be. Believe me, I'm not referring to the cheaters, the sleazebags and the abusers...I'm referring to the majority of males...good men who live and have lived honorable and decent lives. I'm referring to men who had worked their hearts out and continue doing so to provide for their families. I'm referring to the men who fought in all the wars and are still fighting in them, this time with the assistance of females, to preserve and protect our country. I'm referring to the cemeteries here and abroad which are filled with the bodies of soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in wars not of their own making. I'm referring to men who have done "grunt work" all of their lives to earn a paycheck... physical labor for 8 hours a day and longer in all kinds of weather. I'm referring to men in the past who had worked their entire shifts in unairconditioned factories with the heat hot enough to cook their brains. I'm referring to men who did and are currently doing all the work requiring strength and brute force because it's what's expected of them. I'm referring to all the men through the ages who believed in the chivalrous attitude of "women and children first." I'm referring to all the men who have protected women...who put their lives on the line to do so. I'm referring to the male gender...so wonderfully different than that of females like myself.

So, let's knock off all the male bashing including the stupid anti-pronoun business gaining attention. Let's give respect to the American male instead. Viva La Difference!!!! We wouldn't be here or even want to be here without you.

*Ziggy the Rescue Kitty Gets a New Home*, published by Austin Macauley, was released on January 31st, 2019. Price: \$12.95 ISBN: 9781947353428. It is available in Amazon, Barnes Noble as well as other bookstores around the country. Review copies are available upon request. For more information, please visit: [www.austinmacauley.com/us](http://www.austinmacauley.com/us).

Author Tama Blake is a nurse who lives in South Amboy, New Jersey with her family and a menagerie of animals (two Great Danes, a Marble Bengal Cat, a Siamese Kitten with three paws, and Ziggy, The Snow Shoe Cat. She volunteers at a local animal shelter which rescues and coordinates adoptions for kittens, cats, puppies, and dogs which inspired her debut Children's Book *Ziggy the Rescue Kitty Gets a New Home*. She is a recreational artist who has shown her artwork locally.

the envelope Palm Cross Sale. Orders and payment are due Sunday, April 7. Crosses will be available for pickup on Thursday and Friday, April 11-12 in St. Pat's Hall, between 8:30 and 11 a.m., and after all Masses in the church lobby the weekend of April 13-14.



South Amboy Business Administrator Glenn Skarzynski extends a warm greeting to residents at the start of the State of the City Address. Glenn recently celebrated his 1st year anniversary with the City of South Amboy. Congratulations, Glenn! (Photo by Tom Burkard)



Saint Patrick and Mr. Leprechaun visits the PreK classroom at OLV School! (Photo submitted)

### The Smoke Column

By Ex-Chief Richard Kosmoski, MS

Training for firefighters is not a once and done requirement. Each year firefighters must recertify on four mandatory subjects. This is in addition to any technical certifications that firefighters hold above and beyond what is mandatory. The four areas that recertification is mandatory are: Right-To-Know; Hazardous Materials; Blood Borne Pathogens; and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus mask fit testing.

The Right-To-Know program provides information on the different products and chemicals that a person can encounter in their work environment. It also provides contact information for additional information when questions arise as to the safe handling of a product and where necessary resources may be obtained.

The Hazardous Materials program can go into many different directions. Sometimes new and dangerous chemicals are discussed as to handle them safely when they are outside their containers. Most importantly is the ability to determine when and actual hazardous material incident is occurring. Every firefighter is trained to an Awareness and Operations level of hazardous material training. This provides them with the knowledge to determine that a hazardous material has occurred and what steps and procedures they must take in order to be safe and protect the people and the environment that is involved. At this level they are not trained to take any offensive measures in securing the incident. Just knowing that there is a hazardous materials incident is enough for them to call for additional specialized help in the form of the Middlesex County Hazardous Materials Response Team. This team is a specialized group of individuals who respond to the scene with the necessary equipment and manpower to render the area safe and/or to take precautions to do so. If additional help is needed, they make the call for outside environmental clean-up companies to respond.

The Blood Borne Pathogens segment of the training teaches firefighters how to protect themselves when they come upon

victims that are sick, injured, or bleeding. They learn the different techniques to rescue and medically treat these individuals without encountering any of the victim's bodily fluids. They learn how to properly dispose of any items that may have become contaminated while in the process of treating these victims. Contaminated items may include the victims clothing, medical equipment and supplies, or even the rescuers personal protective clothing. These items must be cleaned and decontaminated before they can be placed back in service or they must be disposed of properly and be replaced with new sterile equipment.

The Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) mask that every firefighter wears when they enter a contaminated atmosphere or a smoke filled structure must fit properly to the contour of the wearers face. An extensive test is done on everyone every year. The mask must have a tight seal around the entire face, not allowing exhaled breaths or the supplied breathing air to escape or to allow outside contaminated air to enter. The firefighter goes through a series of segments where different head movements take place while breathing through the mask. This determines if the mask always stays in place when the firefighter is moving his/her head in various positions during firefighting operations. The firefighter must be clean shaving during the test and when wearing the mask under actual firefighting conditions. Otherwise, poison gases, smoke and other toxins can enter the mask and ultimately the respiratory tract while breathing in these atmospheres. The mask is so designed that a constant positive pressure is built into the supplied air system to help keep out some contaminants when the firefighter takes a breath. This is only a secondary safety measure to a tightly seal of the mask itself.

Training is constantly taking place in your local fire departments to help keep your firefighters safe and knowledgeable on the dangers they face in protecting you and your communities.

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### Raritan Bay Funeral Service

If you are from South Amboy, and drive down Bordentown Avenue, you may have noticed some changes and a flurry of activity at the address of 241.

This piece of property was purchased by Joseph Freeman of Keyport, NJ in an effort to bring a funeral home with traditional values along with traditional funerals, to the community, one family at a time.

Joseph started in his profession as a livery driver working for local funeral homes until he was inspired to provide his own quality and caring services for families who have lost loved ones. Having worked in the field since 2006, he eventually expanded his business to further help families. Acquiring one county contract at a time he began handling the transport of human remains for the Counties of Middlesex, Monmouth and Mercer for the Medical Examiner's office and over 100 funeral homes.

After building his company to serving over 100 funeral homes and three counties, and much hard work, in August of 2015, Raritan Bay Funeral Service was born and the property purchase was complete on November 16, 2018. It was at that time Joseph asked Matthew to join the family business managing Raritan Bay Funeral Service.

In November of 2018, the transformation of what looked to be an abandoned funeral home began, beginning with a new sign out front to notify the community "we are here for you". The interior of this facility has already been transformed to warm but light tones of colors of blue, tan and white paint along with ocean themed decor. When sitting in the Gathering Room, it is very comforting to any family and very easy to forget you are in a funeral home.

Soon to come to this facility will be some

remodeling of the outside of the building and a future parking lot that is already in the architectural and engineering phase of this transformation.

At Raritan Bay Funeral Service, we offer our home to you - a comforting and inviting place to gather in remembrance and celebration of lives lived well. Established in August of 2015 by Joseph Freeman and his son Matthew we bring together decades of experience, caring for families of all cultural backgrounds and diverse walks of life.



Matthew Freeman

Matthew J. Freeman, Joseph's son and Manager of Raritan Bay Funeral Service, was born in New Brunswick, NJ in 1986 to Joseph and Tracy Freeman who were both raised in Edison, NJ until they started a family in Laurence Harbor over 30 years ago.

Matthew was raised in Laurence Harbor and after graduating from Old Bridge High School he joined the United States Marine Corp. Once complete of his military duties he then decided to continue his education and get a well-deserved Funeral Director License at Mercer County Community College, graduating with a degree in Applied Science. Matthew then married Julia Mulligan of South Amboy, had a child Damien, and moved into the funeral home to make himself accessible to the families we serve at any given moment.

Today, we pledge to serve all of New Jersey, and the surrounding areas, proudly, and with the highest level of dignity and respect to all the families we serve. It would be the pleasure of Raritan Bay Funeral Service and its staff to be able to meet with the community anytime. As Joseph always says, "My house is your house", come for a visit anytime, to see what we can do for you and your family, and your funeral related needs.

### OLV Senior April Meeting

The OLV Senior Group will hold their April Meeting on Friday, April 5, 2019 at 1:00PM in Monsignor Dalton Hall. After our business meeting, we will have our annual Easter luncheon. The price of the luncheon is \$12.00. All orders must be received by

Mary Bouchard (732-727-5056) by Sunday, March 31st. No orders will be taken after that date. Non-perishable food donations for St. Vincent de Paul will be accepted at all meetings. For further information contact Teri at 732-727-7639.



The Sayreville Fire Department and Sayreville Police Department played a charity basketball game for the Pepin Family of Sayreville on Saturday March 23rd. The family has 2 children with Retinoblastoma. The PD won 54-50. (Photo Submitted)

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✓ *Who: New Families interested in PreK3-7<sup>th</sup>*

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*For more information contact 732-254-1676*





The Greenberg Train Show came to the Edison Expo Center this month. Vendors had just about anything you could need for the train hobby. The huge crowds enjoyed all the displays especially the one pictured above which was made entirely with Lego's. (Photo by Brian Stratton)



Bassist Tal Wickenfeld held a listening party for her debut solo album "Love Remains" on March 10th at Guitar Center In New York City. The crowd included fans that help fund the album through PleadeMusic.com. They got a chance to hear the album song by song with Wickenfeld explaining the meaning of each as well as who performed on the tracks. Above Tal ponders a question from the audience. (Photo by Brian Stratton)

# Our Best Wishes For A Blessed Easter & Happy Passover



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Mayor

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<b>ZUSETTE DATO</b> Councilwoman	<b>THOMAS REILLY</b> Councilman
<b>BRIAN McLAUGHLIN</b> Councilman	
<b>LAURA KEMBLE</b> Acting City Clerk	<b>GLENN SKARZYNSKI</b> Business Administrator
<b>DANIEL BALKA</b> Finance Director	<b>DARREN LaVIGNE</b> Chief of Police
<b>FRANCIS M. WOMACK</b> Law Director	<b>SHERYL MASSARO</b> Municipal Court Administrator
<b>BRIAN TIERNEY</b> Fire Chief	<b>LEONARD MOFFA</b> Public Works Superintendent
<b>JOANNE KATKO</b> Tax Collector	<b>ELAINE GABER</b> Library Director





Sayreville Mayor Kennedy O'Brien reads Proclamation honoring late Sayreville Police Officer Charles "Chip" Blaszas, with the help of Chip's grandchildren Marissa and Mason at a recent Borough Council meeting.



The family of Sayreville Police Officer Charles "Chip" Blaszas is pictured along with Sayreville Mayor Kennedy O'Brien and Borough Council members following the presentation of a beautiful Proclamation. (Photos by Tom Burkard)

### SA Times Writer Honors Officer Chip

By Tom Burkard

SATimes feature writer Clem Skarzynski honored his close friend Charles "Chip" Blaszas of the Sayreville Police Dept. who recently passed away. Skarzynski wrote a long, eloquent and beautiful Proclamation for Chip, which he presented to Mayor Kennedy O'Brien and the Council, and was read by the mayor with the help of Chip's two young grandchildren Marissa and Mason at a recent Borough of Sayreville council meeting.

Clem recently shared his thoughts and feelings about Officer Chip Blaszas, saying, "Chip and I were close friends, and worked together for the Spezzi family. I was always so impressed with his work as the Dare Officer with the Borough's police department and school system. He put so much effort into helping "His Kids" (as he called them) understand the pitfalls and dangers of the growing drug abuse epidemic in our country and borough. He was known as Officer Chip, his kids thought so highly of him, and respected him and his knowledge and teachings of Drug & Alcohol abuse. The love and compassion he had and demonstrated with his own family, overflowed to his kids with the same passion. Whenever one of his

kids became a statistic, he took it so hard, with such sadness. He had quite a heart, and left that impression with all those who knew him! If you didn't like Chip, there was something wrong with you.

I just wanted to express all of this with a Proclamation, so I just sat down and wrote all of his love of family and kids, and what he's given to his community as a Police Officer, and most importantly as the D.A.R.E. Officer, and to have it all remembered within the Borough with an Official Proclamation that is now recorded in the Borough history and records. He deserved it and so much more! The Proclamation will soon hang in the Borough's UES school, where Officer Chip worked and taught his kids, to remind all who see it, what good can come from one person who cared!"

Clem also said, "My sincerest thanks to Mayor Kennedy O'Brien, Borough Clerk Theresa Farbaniec, and Nicole Waranowicz, from the Clerk's Office, for all of your help and guidance on how to "Create and Write-up a Proclamation," and for doing such a beautiful job on its presentation to the family. Thank you all."

### Test Drive a Ford and Support OBHS JROTC

All American Ford in Old Bridge and the Old Bridge High School AFJROTC Parents Association are working together to support the Old Bridge High School Air Force JROTC program and cadets as part of the Ford Motor Company's Drive 4 UR School program. This fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 6 between 10 am and 2 pm, at Old Bridge High School, Route 516 in Old Bridge (Matawan). For every person who test drives a new Ford vehicle at this event, the Ford Motor Company will donate \$20.

Funds raised during this event will benefit the OBHS AFJROTC program and cadets, who provide many services to the community. Last year, the unit earned the Silver Star Community Service with Excellence Award, given only to the top 5% Air Force JROTC units with the highest "per cadet average" of community service hours.

Drivers must be 18 years old or older with a valid driver's license and auto insurance. For more information email obhsjrotparents@gmail.com.

### OLV Senior Trip to Finger Lakes Wineries

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to the Finger Lakes wineries on April 23, 2019 to April 26, 2019. The cost of the trip is \$685.00 which includes hotel accommodations, bus transportation and bus driver gratuity, 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners, visits to 8 wineries and 1 distillery,

admission to museum and tour. For further information or to reserve a seat, please contact Teri at 732-727-7639.



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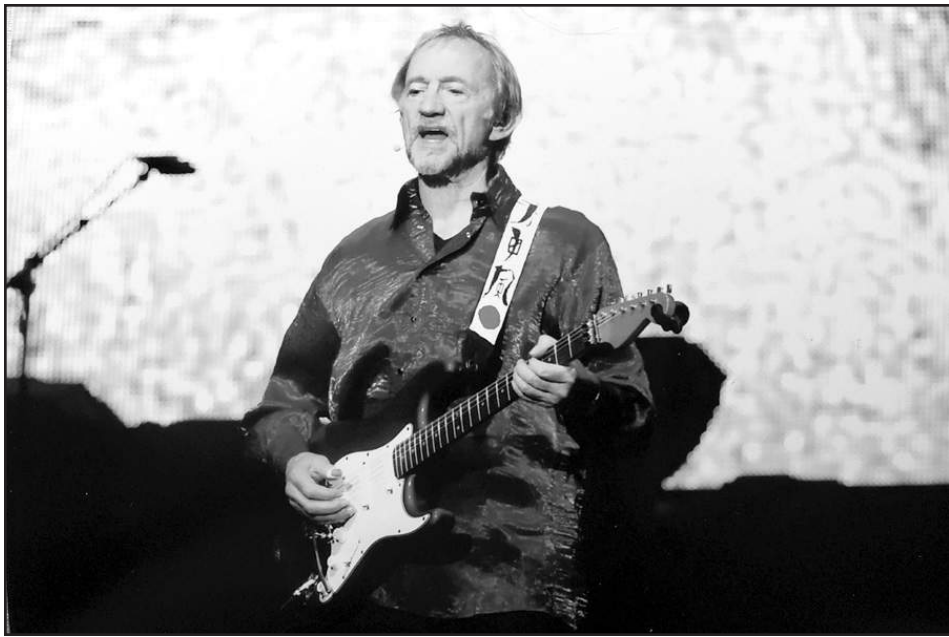
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The Monkees fans were saddened by the death of Peter Tork, 77, who passed away in Connecticut on Feb. 21st. Tork was a fine guitarist/vocalist for the popular 60's group. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

## Rumbles from the Rock and Roll Reunion

By Clem Skarzynski

Hey, hey...if you haven't done so already, c'mon get those tickets for Sayreville VFW'S 4th Annual Classic Rock/Oldies Dinner Dance, just around the corner, Saturday April 6th, at the Post Home on Jernee Mill Rd., Sayreville. Live Classic Rock and Oldies from the 50's thru the 70's, by Central Jersey's premier 8-piece Rock and Roll Band, "Clem and Friends," who welcome Mr. Gary "Tripps" Trippiedi and his alto sax to the 3-piece horn section Gary's roots go to the "Asbury Park Music Scene." He's a great addition to the Friends "Family." Thanks Gary, and Welcome. Help the "Cause," support our troops," bring friends to a great nite of music, food, open bar,

and most important, friends and neighbors! Fun starts at 6 pm, music 7:30 to 10:30. Hoping to see you all there! Johnny Maestro Tribute Band Getting ready for their Show at Middletown Arts Center, Saturday April 13th! Tix still available. 5other Oldies Acts on stage also, so a great nite of Doo-Wops for you oldies fans out there! Local Acoustic Showmen, Jerry Smith and Danny Toye will be making an appearance at the Dowdell Library in the upcoming summer months. I'll keep you posted on that show. It's also a great combination of our 2 local acoustic wizards in 1 show. So, lots of things to do and see in the "Music Scene" ..TILL NEXT TIME.."Rock and Roll"!

### Free Concert

The GB's Band will perform a FREE concert sponsored by the Sayreville Cultural Arts Council on Wednesday, April 3, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sayreville Senior Center, 423 Main St. The GB's play all your favorite polkas as

well as standard tunes and patriotic songs. Something for everyone! ALL ages invited; light refreshments will be served. For more information, call Edna at 908-208-2358 or email Sayrevilleculturalarts@gmail.com .

## "King Of The Surf Guitar"- Dick Dale

By Clem Skarzynski

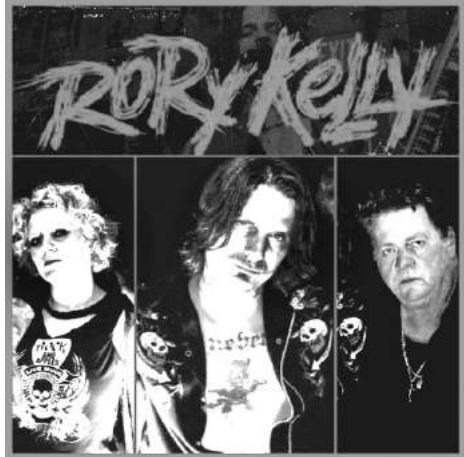
R.I.P. Mr. "King of the Surf Guitar," Dick Dale, who without any disagreement, was the ultimate King of the "Surf Era," and it's "reverb soaked" guitar riffs!

JBL'S, volume to ten +. The only way to get your "riff'across"! All of us "oldsters" owe a lot to Dick for his style of playing that kept us "learning" as 12-13 year old rockers! No, The Beach Boys didn't invent "Surf Music" ....Mr. Dick Dale did! We could only "copy" that sound the best we could! Thank you Dick, for your playing, conversation and "words of wisdom" telling me to "Keep Playing Clem." I'll never forget that advice! Now go destroy another Dual Showman....R.I.P.!

I had the extreme pleasure of meeting and chatting with Dick, at the Asbury Lanes Show June 1, 2007, and what a down to earth true "Gentleman!" You'd never believe he destroyed at least 50 Fender Dual Showman Amps in his career of albums/movies/shows, etc. Using at least 2 of the Amps, 100 watts each, with 2, 2x15 cabinets, loaded with



Elite Guitarists-The legendary Dick Dale (r) met and chatted with SA Times feature writer/master guitarist Clem Skarzynski at Asbury Lanes following Dick's show June 1, 2007. (Photos by Brian Stratton)



Rory Kelly and his band will be coming to New Jersey on July 12th to rock the house at Ryan's Pub & Sports Bar in Monroe, and on July 13th at the South Stevens Pub in South Amboy, don't miss this amazing band in action!

## One Hit Wonders

40 Years Ago

1979-New York Groove-Ace Freeley; Got To Be Real-Cheryl Lynn; Shake It-Ian Matthews; What You Won't Do For Love-Bobby Caldwell; Livin' It Up (Friday Night)-Bell & James; Knock On Wood-Amii Stewart; Music Box Dancer-Frank Mills; I Got My Mind Made Up-Instant Funk; Just When I Needed You Most-Randy Vanwarmer; You Take My Breath Away-Rex Smith; Ring My Bell-Anita Ward; Ain't No Stoppin' Us Now-McFadden & Whitehead; Makin' It-David Naughton; Born To Be Alive-Patrick Hernandez; Cruel To Be Kind-Nick Lowe; Driver's Seat-Sniff 'N' The Tears; Hold On-Ian Gomm; Pop Music-M; Come To Me-France Joli; You're Only Lonely-J.D. Souther.

## Comedy Night Benefit

Comedy Night Benefit Fundraiser with Comedian Jeff Morris! Beneficiaries are Raegan Rose Amato and Mellisa Kimmel Herman; two local families facing both Medical & Financial Hardships. Date: May 4th at the Knights of Columbus #2061, Victorian Hall, 775 Washington Rd. Parlin. Doors open at 7 p.m. Show starts promptly at 8 p.m. Chance for Door Prizes! Price per ticket: \$40 includes Beer, Wine, Soda and Snacks! Questions contact: Carl Palestrini 732-600-6248, Keith Rybak 732-261-1025 or Eric Hausmann 908-420-5470.

## Open Mic Night At The Knights

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426 Past Grand Knight Ray Suchcicki happens to be one of the area's most talented drummers, and can be seen performing at almost every monthly Open Mic Night. Ray can play any type of music, and does so with such style and finesse.



Bruce Grankowski made his Open Mic debut at the Feb. 22nd show, and was outstanding on bass guitar. Everyone hopes to see Bruce, a local talent performing again at the March 29 Open Mic Night.



## MUSIC TRIVIA

By Tom Burkard

## First Names (Male)

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. __ Freddie & The Dreamers | a. Johnny Get Angry       |
| 2. __ Chuck Berry            | b. Jumpin' Jack Flash     |
| 3. __ The Rolling Stones     | c. Johnny B.              |
| 4. __ Michael Jackson        | d. Billy, Don't Be A Hero |
| 5. __ The Hooters            | e. Message To Michael     |
| 6. __ Joanie Sommers         | f. Do The Freddie         |
| 7. __ Dionne Warwick         | g. Timothy                |
| 8. __ Bo Donaldson           | h. Johnny B. Goode        |
| 9. __ The Buoy               | i. Ben                    |
| 10. __ Killer Joe            | j. The Rocky Fellers      |

Answers 10j 9i 8d 7g 6f 5e 4c 3b 2a 1f



## School Sports

By Tom Burkard

### Bombers Fall In States

The Sayreville girls basketball team was eliminated in CJ Group 4 State Tourney action by Middletown South, 65-47. Jackie Ventricelli fired in 19 points, and Serina Townes 10 in a losing effort for our locals.

### Guv's Bow In CJ 1

The South Amboy Governors saw their season come to an end in the first round of CJ Group 1 State Tournament play, as they dropped a 58-40 contest to Middlesex. Kyle Gasiewski closed out a brilliant schoolboy basketball career in which he scored over 1,000 points, by leading SA with 15 markers. Joshua Jimenez tossed in 10 for the Purple & Gold.

### 2018-2019 Final Stats

#### Girls Basketball

##### Sayreville (17-10)

Total Points-Jackie Ventricelli 389 Lyssandra Delacosta 281 Serina Townes 259 Stephanie Van Note 243 Brooke Holland 184. Rebounds-Townes 174 Holland 158 Van Note 157.

Assists-Van Note 90 Ventricelli 39 Delacosta 36.

Steals-Ventricelli 117 Van Note 65 Delacosta 40.

##### South Amboy (5-16)

Total Points-Faith Nemeth 259 Julie Olivieri 155 Alexis Calisti 118.

Rebounds-Nemeth 194 Olivieri 173 Kelly Mihalecko 157 Calisti 99.

Assists-Calisti 60 Renee Piazzolla 43 Olivieri 38.

Steals-Calisti 52 Piazzolla 33.

#### Boys Basketball

##### South Amboy (11-14)

Total Points-Kyle Gasiewski 568 Joshua Jimenez 224 John McCleery 181 Steven Pena 155 Steve McLaughlin 93.

##### Sayreville (6-18)

Total Points-Jaijuan Macklin 233 Kaieme Byers 151 Luca Ventricelli 109 Cameron Davis 93.

### Acevedo, Arthur All-GMC Selections

Sayreville wrestling standouts Dylan Acevedo (113 lbs.), and Benedict Arthur (285 lbs.) were selected to the prestigious All-GMC team for the 2018-19 season. Acevedo finished (30-7), was the GMC champion, and also won the District title, while finishing 4th in the Region, and was a Top 24 choice in the State. Arthur (34-8), captured the GMC championship, was 2nd in the District and 4th in Region competition, while in the Top 16 in the State. Congratulations to both fine athletes on your memorable season.



### First Show!



Pictured is 3 1/2 month old Dominic Porcaro (r) sitting on his dad's lap while attending his first Open Mic Night at the South Amboy K of C Council #426 on Feb. 22. He had headphones and all, while having an enjoyable time listening to the music. (Photo/story by Joe Lotkowitz)

## College Notebook

### Basketball

Jehyve Floyd (Sayreville) tops Holy Cross University (16-17) with 202, 6.1 rebounds, assists-3.5, blocks-2.4, field goal %-66.9, and is #2 with 426 points, 12.9... Marques Townes (St. Joseph's/Cardinal McCarrick) leads Chicago-Loyola (20-13) with 508 points, 15.9, assists-3.5, free throw % 76.2, is #2 in steals with 32, and averages 5.1 rebounds...Alissa Bikowski (South Amboy) had a fine soph season with Middlesex County College, leading the team in assists-4.2, and steals-2.4, while being the #2 scorer with an 11.6 avg...Tony Bozzella, who got his coaching start with St. Mary's girls basketball team, guided the Seton Hall women's squad to a (15-15) season.

### Softball

Jackie Riley (Cardinal McCarrick/St. Mary's) and her Kean University (8-1) softball squad are off to a superb start. She tops the team with a sizzling .462 batting avg., and also a .769 slugging pct., in addition to driving in 7 runs with a double and home run. Jackie has excelled on the pitcher's mound as well, by going (3-0) with a miniscule 0.31 ERA in 22.1 innings, while striking out 11 and allowing only 3 walks. She has held opponents to a .179 batting avg...Kelly Duffy (Sayreville) is batting .286 with 2 RBI for Rowan University (2-3)...Ryane Brush (Sayreville) is ripping the ball for a .351 avg., with a homer and 5 RBI, and is #2 on the College of St. Rose (NY) team with 13 hits.

### Baseball

Jonny Stratton, son of former Hoffman HS star athlete Randy Stratton is the starting third baseman for Penn State York (4-1).

### Taite Rewrites Record Book

Former Sayreville basketball standout and member of the 1,000 point club, Corey Taite has turned in a truly amazing career at Goldey-Beacom College, becoming the school's #1 All-Time leader in several important statistical categories. Corey is now Goldey-Beacom's top scorer with 1,810 points easily surpassing previous record holder Sam McDuffie, who had 1,413 points from (2007-2011). In addition, Taite is at the top of the mountain in career assists-377, 3-point field goals-211, field goals made-560, free throws made-479, and was #2 in steals with 218, trailing only Derek Savage's 236, who notched his while playing from (204-2008).

The South Amboy-Sayreville Times tips it hat and sends congratulations to Corey for his outstanding, record-setting career, and wishes him the best of luck in your future endeavors!

### #1 Pop Hits-March 30

- 2009-Right Round-Flo Rida
- 1999-Believe-Cher
- 1989-The Living Years-Mike & The Mechanics
- 1979-Tragedy-The Bee Gees
- 1969-Dizzy-Tommy Roe
- 1959-Venus-Frankie Avalon

### #1 Country Hits-March 30

- 2004-Watch The Wind Blow By-Tim McGraw
- 1994-No Doubt About It-Neal McCoy
- 1984-Roll On (Eighteen Wheeler)-Alabama
- 1975-The Bargain Store-Dolly Parton
- 1964-Saginaw, Michigan-Lefty Frizzell
- 1954-Wake Up, Irene-Hank Thompson

### Bon Jovi Helps Homeless Youth

By Tom Burkard

Former Sayreville rock superstar/actor/philanthropist Jon Bon Jovi once again has come forth to aid the less fortunate, this time in the state of Nevada. The JBJ Soul Foundation recently pledged a matching grant for up to \$100,000 for monies raised by the Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth for a campaign to fund a new facility that will provide beds for homeless youth in Southern Nevada. The Las Vegas Sands, through their charity branch, Sands Cares has already donated a \$100,000 seed investment.

## Champions!



St. Mary's (South Amboy) Eagles 5/6th grade girls basketball team. This was their first season together with a record of 27-1 and 2 championships lead by Coach Don and JoEllen Sofilkanych. (Photo/Info Submitted)

## Continuing The Tradition



Connor O'Brien Seattle University baseball standout connects for another solid hit for the Redhawks (4-8). O'Brien is batting .333 with 9 RBI and 3 stolen bases. He is the grandson of South Amboy native and legend John O'Brien, who excelled in baseball and basketball at St. Mary's HS, went on to become an All-American at Seattle U., and Major League Baseball player with his late twin brother Ed. (Photo courtesy of John Shaffer) (Information courtesy of Paul Ust)

### Play Ball!

#### A Girl Scout Gold Award Project

Megan Corby, a senior girl scout from Sayreville/South Amboy troop 80073 is organizing the Challenger Division for Sayreville Little League for her girl scout gold award project. The Challenger Division is open to all athletes, male or female, between the ages of 4-18 with physical and intellectual disabilities. Fee is \$50 per player which includes a jersey and a hat. Registration is open to Sayreville, South Amboy, and South River residents and is available in person or online through the Sayreville Little League Website. [www.sayrevillelittleleague.com](http://www.sayrevillelittleleague.com) Any questions, please contact Megan Corby at [iluvgs0417@aol.com](mailto:iluvgs0417@aol.com)

### OLV Senior Trip to Cabaret by the Sea

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to the Crystal Point Yacht Club to see the show Cabaret by the Sea featuring Vincent Talarico. The trip is on August 6, 2019. The trip package is \$125 which includes deluxe motorcoach transportation, 3 course luncheon and show, all taxes and gratuities. For further questions or to reserve a seat please contact Finita at 732-721-5081.



### Mets Trip June 15

For all of you baseball fans, The South Amboy Council 426 Knights of Columbus are running a trip to beautiful Citi Field to see the Mets host the St. Louis Cardinals Saturday, June 15. Game time is 7:10 p.m. Motor coach leaves the K of C parking lot at 3 p.m. Cost of \$135 includes round trip transportation, reserved mezzanine seats, snacks, refreshments, a Player Gnome giveaway, and \$24 worth of Mets Money that can be used anywhere in the ballpark. For more information call Steve at 732-727-1707.

### Yankee Stadium Trips

Sayreville Rec bus trips to Yankee stadium  
**June 21st** vs Houston Astro's  
**July 19th** vs Colorado Rockies  
**Aug 16th** vs Cleveland Indians  
 Seats are Sect. 129 lower level rows 18, 19 & 20. Bus leaves Sayreville Rec Dept. at 4pm sharp! All tickets are \$100.00 each & include ticket, parking and bus driver tip. Tickets can be purchased online at [Sayrevillerec.com](http://Sayrevillerec.com), Call for info: 732-390-7096, Mon-Fri 8am to 4pm.

### Knights Golf Outing May 23

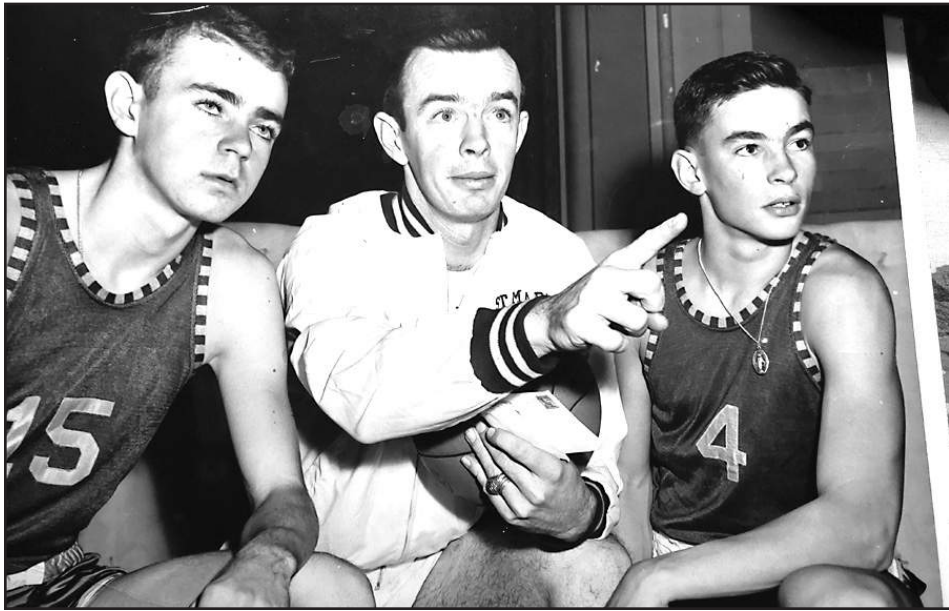
South Amboy Knights of Columbus hold their 10th annual Golf Outing Thursday, May 23 at the beautiful Cruz Farms Golf Course in Farmingdale NJ. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with a 9 a.m. tee-off. Cost of \$100 includes 18 holes of golf, riding cart, lunch, dinner, golf shirt, and an opportunity to win many prizes. There will be an awards presentation, dinner, and prize drawings after golf, at the K of C at 308 Fourth St. South Amboy. The Knights are in need of sponsors to help them financially with the golf outing. There are \$100, \$75, and \$50 slots available. Prizes or hole sponsorships will be recognized. For more information call Ray Suchcicki at 732-721-2025 or 732-406-2340.



## The Local Sports Memory Machine

By Tom Burkard

### From The Sports Archives



1959-1960-St. Mary's Eagles Coach Luke Lenahan (c) points out strategy to sophomores Joe Jankowski (l) and Bill Tibbitt (r). (Photo courtesy of Larry Lenahan)

### Back In Those College Days

Mike Geraltowski (St. Mary's) starred in track & field, and cross country at Long Island University...Larry Scheid also starred in track & field, and cross country at American University...Chris Beagan (Sayreville) was a standout wrestler for Montclair State College...John Wortley (St. Mary's) starred in tennis for Rider College (now University).

### Locals Who Played/Coached At Other High Schools

Tim Mahoney (South Amboy) played hockey for St. Joseph's; Bill Bulman (St. Mary's) went on to coach St. John Vianney girls basketball teams to 5 straight South Jersey Parochial championships.

### 1955 Senior Basketball League Champs

The Zall A.A. South Amboy Senior Basketball League team breezed to the city championship. The powerhouse squad, sponsored by South Amboy businessman Lou Zall, featured many players who are now local sports legends including Jim Croddick, John "Skeets" Skarzynski, Reggie Carney Sr., Jim Inman, Leo Kedzierski, John Wortley, Ray "Butch" Tomaszewski, and Jim Murray.



### Hall Of Fame Inductee



South Amboy's Mike Geraltowski wins another of many races in his illustrious career of road running. Mike, along with Larry Scheid of Sayreville, was recently inducted into the prestigious Shore Athletic Club Hall of Fame. In early 1982, Geraltowski, who ran any distance race and held his own, no matter the competition, won 8 of 9 highly-competitive races ranging from the mile to the marathon throughout the state of New Jersey. (Photo/info submitted)

### Geraltowski, Scheid Selected To Hall of Fame

Michael Geraltowski (St. Mary's HS/Long Island University), and Larry Scheid (Sayreville War Memorial HS/American University) were honored by being inducted into the Shore Athletic Club Hall of Fame on March 10th at the Club's annual awards banquet. They were recognized for their past achievements in the sport of Track & Field, as well as Road Running. Congratulations Mike and Larry!

## Glory Days In Local Sports

1959-St. Rose nipped St. Mary's 60-58 in basketball play. Tom "Tex" Leonard paced the Eagles with 21 points, while Pat Mullane scored 13, Rich Christina 10 and Ray Cavanagh 10. 1963-Hoffman mauled Monmouth Regional 69-50 in boys basketball, as all 5 starters cracked double figures. John Lange led the way with 21 points, Dennis Wood 13, Manny Formoso 13, Jerry Drill 12, Ken Wahler 10. 1976-St. Mary's girls basketball team stopped South Brunswick, 51-48, as Kathy Redling led the way with 20 points, and her 2 free throws with 0:50 seconds left won it. Mary Jane Pascale popped in 17. 1988-Sayreville

### 15 Years Ago

2004-Kristen Kaelin, star basketball player for Our Lady of Victories School scored her 1,000th elementary school point at the Msgr. Dalton Tournament. Tony Miklaszewski was the Coach of the OLV team.

### 25 Years Ago

#### Gundrum Wins Soccer Title

1994-The Gundrum Service captured the Sayreville Recreation Soccer Division II girls championship for the fall season with a standout record of (8-0-1). The team coached by Barbara Rone and Keith Kish also took 2nd place in the Mayor's Trophy playoffs.

The players included: Regan Rone, Kaitlyn Katko, Shannon Coyle, Jennifer Hyle, Stephanie Hyle, Lynn Kellar, Erica Kish, Jennifer Krempecki, Jennifer Labruzzo, Jessica Moore, Laura Potenski, Amanda Toye, Ashley Vohdin, Karen Vega.

### 35 Years Ago

1983-84-The South Amboy Men's Senior Basketball League featured 8 teams including defending champion Halfway House, Monaghan House, Lions Den, Smiley's Deli, Eagle Sports Association, Bottle Stop, Olde Towne Deli & Liquors, Landmark Inn.

### Looking Back At 2007

**South Amboy Boys Win Holiday Title**  
The South Amboy boys basketball team captured its own South Amboy Holiday Tournament championship by defeating Keansburg, 57-44. Mark Simko led the way with 22 points, followed by Larry Lenahan 18 and Joe Charmello 9...

**Sayreville Cops High Bridge Tourney**  
The Sayreville Bombers boys basketball squad won the High Bridge Holiday Tournament by downing Woodbridge 80-68. Chris Matagrano scorched the nets for 28 points, had 15 rebounds, and 5 blocks. Teammate Ricky Harding tossed in 25 points, dished out 7 assists, and added 5 rebounds, and Lavone Graham scored 12 points for the champions.

girls tennis team finished (6-10). 1st Singles player Joanne Vasile led the Bombers with 12 victories, while Gayle Haney notched 9 wins. 1998-South Amboy boys basketball team played its first state tourney game since 1984, and defeated Bound Brook, 62-58, thanks to 2 free throws by Rich Klein with 3:45 left to put the Guvs ahead for good at 49-48. Ed Behnen poured in 24 points, followed by Kevin Cushing 15 and Matt Martins 12.

2004-Tom Danielsen of Sayreville captured the District 20, 130-pound wrestling championship by defeating South Brunswick's Kyle Wadiak, 6-4.

### T.H.E. Game

#### Sport-Boys Basketball

#### Year-1998

**Teams-Sayreville vs. St. Mary's in GMCT Recap**-The Bombers blasted the Eagles, 84-52 in a GMCT game at Middlesex County College. Superstar Leland Norris poured in 36 points including 3 flying airborne slam-dunks in the final few minutes of the game. Marcin Ziobrin and Keith Beasley tossed in 12 points apiece for Sayreville. St. Mary's was paced by Leo McCabe with 20 points and Tom Rizzo 11.

### C.Y.O Days 50 Years Ago

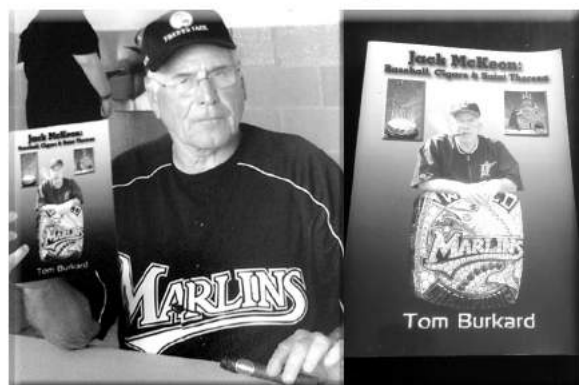
1969-The Sacred Heart Grammar School CYO team, and High School CYO teams both turned in outstanding seasons in their respective leagues. The Grammar School squad, coached by Rick Ferguson chalked up many victories, and were led by the high-scoring antics of Steve Makwinski and Rich Krzyzanowski. The roster was loaded with talent, and others who were big contributors throughout the year were Dan Clark, Mark Clark, Andy Liyana, Fred Chodkiewicz, Dave Usa, Dan Dzioba, John Norman, Matty Clark, Mike Zarembo.

**1968-69 Flashback**-The unbeaten Sacred Heart Grammar School powerhouse ran its amazing unbeaten streak to 18 as they annihilated Our Lady of Peace, Fords, 48-22. Krzyzanowski led the attack with 14 points, followed by Makwinski 13, and Dan Clark 9 points.

The Hearts High School contingent, coached by Gene Lopez, was very talented as well, and were paced with big games throughout the season from Gene Cross, Bob Duffy, Dan Weinman, Gil Stankiewicz, Rich Tanchyk, Bob Norman, Paul Mauro, Tony Mauro.

**1968-69 Flashback**-The Hearts won their ninth of 10 contests by beating St. John Vianney, 69-61. Five players scored in double digits including Bob Duffy 16 points, Gene Cross 15, Dan Weinman 15, Gil Stankiewicz 12, Rich Tanchyk 11.

### Jack McKeon: Baseball, Cigars & Saint Theresa



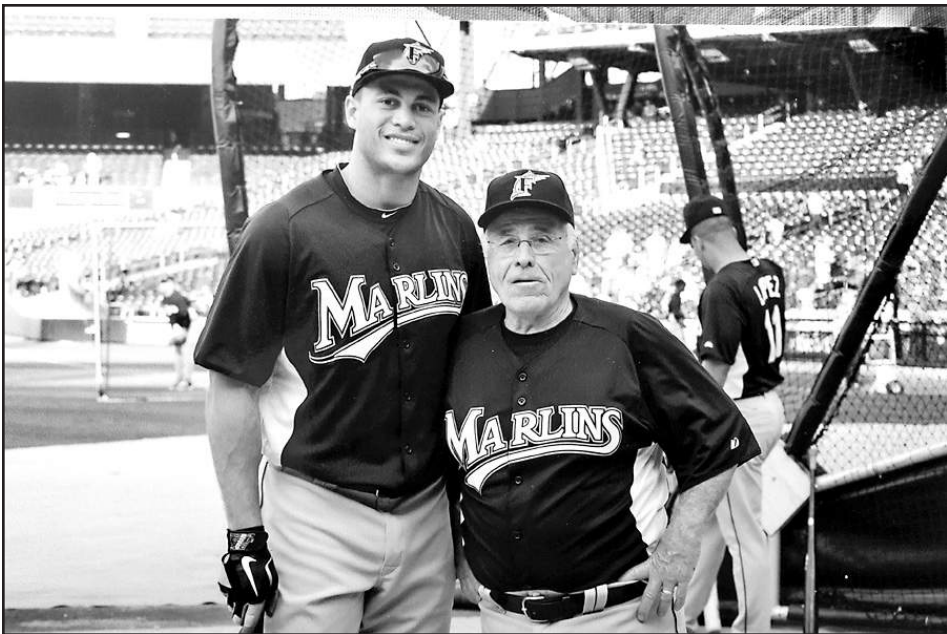
South Amboy native and Major League Baseball legend Jack McKeon is pictured holding Jack McKeon: Baseball, Cigars & Saint Theresa, back in 2005 at Spring Training in Jupiter, Fla. Jack, who was recently hired by the Washington Nationals said that, "Out of the three books written about me, this book is the most complete by far, and when someone wants to know something about my life and baseball career, I tell them they can look it up in this book."

Baseball, Cigars & Saint Theresa, written by SA Times Publisher, Tom Burkard was released back in 2004, and a limited number of copies have been located.

They are all in pristine-MINT condition, and now available for purchase. Order Your Copy Today! Please send your personal check or money order (written out to The SA Times) for \$15, which covers handling, shipping, and New Jersey Sales Tax to:

The SA Times, P.O. Box 3027, South Amboy, NJ 08879.  
Orders will be shipped immediately, as long as supplies last.





South Amboy native and former Florida Marlins manager Jack McKeon (r) is pictured with a young and talented slugger Giancarlo Stanton back in 2011, when Stanton played for McKeon. Both men have moved on, McKeon, as a senior advisor to the general manager of the Washington Nationals, and Stanton to a starring role with the New York Yankees, where he blasted 38 home runs and had 100 RBI in his first season in pinstripes. Yankee fans are hoping for a 50-home run season from Giancarlo this year, and Jack McKeon fans are praying for Jack to get a chance to manage the Nationals for one-game, and become the oldest man in the history of MLB to manage at 88 years old. Best of luck to both gentlemen! (Photo/story by Tom Burkard)



This youngster seems to be saying, to David Wright, "Say it isn't so David. Please don't retire!" Unfortunately, Wright, who has been plagued by serious injuries for the last few years, has retired from the game, and will be missed by his millions of fans. He was a class act all the way, and always had a kind word for youngsters, and autograph seekers of all ages. (Photo/story by Tom Burkard)

### Pro Wrestling Through The Years

Millions of people are, or were pro wrestling fans through the years. Al Gomolka, has been one of the biggest wrestling rooters around, going way back to the 1960's. He has ranked his personal favorites from the 60's to present as follows: Wrestlers-1-Bruno Sammartino 2-Killer Kowalski 3-Hulk Hogan 4-Fabulous Moolah 5-Haystacks Calhoun 6-Sgt. Slaughter 7-Andre The Giant 8-Milt Mascara 9-Gorilla Monsoon 10-Antonino Rocco 11-Bob Backlund 12-Superstar Billy Graham 13-Arnold Skoland 14-Freddie Blassie 15-Rick Flair 16-Gorgeous George 17-Dusty Rhodes 18 George The Animal Steele 19-Ivan Putski 20-The Undertaker 21-Jesse The Body

Ventura 22-Jimmy Superfly Snuka 23-Dick The Bruiser 24-Rowdy Roddy Piper 25-Mick Foley 26-Fuzzy Cupid & Sky Low 27-Bobo Brazil. Tag Teams- 1-The Fabulous Kangaroos 2-Triple H & Heartbreak Kid 3-Cogeneration X 4-The Bastein Brothers 5-The Mongols. Managers- 1-Captain Lou Albano 2-The Grand Wizard 3-Fred Blassie 4-Bobby The Brain Heenan.

\*If anyone would like to select their all-time favorites in pro wrestling or have any memories to share of matches they may have seen, please feel free to submit to The SA Times for publication with your name and town you reside in.

### 1963 City Series Photo Recalled

It was great hearing from Tom Fitzmorris, who in last month's issue, was pictured in a vintage photo driving to the basket, against Hoffman's John Lange during the St. Mary's vs. Hoffman City Series battle.

Tom shared the following memories of that big game and photo. "I was pleasantly shocked and surprised to see my young self pictured on page 16. I had never ever seen that particular photo before. I would like to explain some details about the scene captured. The date was Feb. 2, 1962, and I was driving

in the first half at the east end basket in the Hoffman HS gym that opened in 1957-58. St. Mary's won this game 52-47. It was a thrilling win in front of a loud full-packed crowd, that not a single more sardine could have squeezed in. I scored 9 points and shot a perfect 7-for-7 from the foul stripe. Playing big roles in the win were teammates Jack Kreiger, Joe Jankowski, Jay Derent, Bob Suminski, and Bill Tibbitt."

\*Thank you Tom for sharing your great memories with SA Times readers.

### Big Basketball Photo

Last month's classic photo from 1964 titled "It Will Never Fit," which showed St. Mary's star center Joe Chodkiewicz holding a gigantic basketball up to a basket in St. Mary's gym, was taken by one of the greatest sportswriters/photographers ever, Ron Kukulski, who according to Joe Chodkiewicz was working for The Perth Amboy Evening News at the time. Ron later went on to become the tabloid's Sports Editor, and then a highly-successful career with The Sun-Sentinel, Florida's largest daily newspaper.

### OLV Senior Trip to Christmas Lights in Dyker Heights

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to the Christmas Lights in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn NY. On Friday, December 6, 2019. The price of the trip is \$145.00 which includes bus transportation, bus gratuity, dinner at Tommaso Restaurant, guided tour of the Dyker Heights Neighborhood, all taxes and gratuities. For further information or to reserve a seat please call Finita at 732-721-5081.

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### 80 Years Ago

#### 1939: A Big Year in South Amboy Sports

##### Hoffman Wins Basketball Title

Hoffman High's 1938-39 basketball state championship team was undoubtedly one of the finest in the school's history. Coach Eugene "Jimmy" Dobrzynski's charges racked up an impressive 24-4 record, to this day the best-ever at the Hoffman/South Amboy HS. During this time period, most games were low-scoring, because of the center jump after each basket that was made. Defense was the key, and Hoffman excelled like few others could back then. The Guvs finished the regular season at 20-4, and opened the Group II state tourney by ripping Rumson, 35-25. Manasquan fell prey to the fired up John Streeters, in a tight 31-28 tussle. In the overall South Jersey final Hoffman annihilated Carteret, 54-27. A powerful Wildwood provided some stiff competition in the Group II final, as they had the Purple & Gold down by 6 at halftime. The fighting Governors pulled it all together, and emerged with a 28-24 victory, and the coveted Group II State Championship. The starting 5 for the '39 champions were: center: Chet Sprague; guards: Capt. Ernie Read and Fred Henry; forwards: Andy Dobrzynski and Carl Marks. Super subs were: Wally Wood, Gene Croddick, Clarence Bubaltz, John "Bunker" Kelly, Bill Richmond, Wilson Huff, Pete Ewtuschek, Elton Selover, and Hammell. The top 4 scorers for the year were: Sprague 266, Dobrzynski 240, Marks 201, Read 152.

**Eagles Win 3 Baseball Crowns**  
Coach John Zdanewicz's 1939 St. Mary's

baseball nine was a talented group of young athletes - true champions. The Saints won the city baseball title over Hoffman, 11-9 and 8-7. They didn't stop there. Against St. Peter's, Allie Clark turned in a superman like offensive performance, going 6 for 6 with 5 rbi's as the Eagles romped 11-6 to take the Middlesex County Parochial Schools title. Sophomore pitching ace, Joe Conroy picked up the victory.

Johnny Z.'s boys also were awarded the Group II Prep School state championship for the second consecutive year. Superstar, soph shortstop, Allie Clark, who went on to major league fame with the Yankees, led the champions with a sizzling .449 avg., 35 hits, and tied for the homer lead with catcher Bill "Smokey" Ryan with 3 home runs. Ryan stung the ball for a .375 mark, and topped the team with 23 runs and 3 triples. First sacker, Walt "Kelly" Grembowicz hit .373 and had the most doubles with 6. Standout outfielder, John "Mikey" Carroll drilled 25 hits, scored 22 runs, stroked 5 doubles, and batted a lofty .368. Ace pitcher, soph Joe Conroy was (7-1), and could really hit, drilling 24 hits for a .348 avg. Jack McNamara walloped the ball for a .340 avg. and excelled on defense. #2 hurler Frank "Trip" Cheeseman had a fine (3-1) record. Other talented starters on this club were: Bernie Mackiel, Joe Rush, Tom Zebro, and Steve Schultz. Ready reserves were: F. Donnola, J. Stolte, F. Shafnacker, E. Zamorski, E. Nycz, John "Bing" Miller, Creed, Szaroleta, Joe "Scoop" McCarthy.

#### Spaghetti Dinner/Tricky Tray April 7

Frog Hollow Swim & Tennis Club will be holding its annual Spaghetti Dinner/Tricky Tray on Sunday, April 7th. The event will be held at the K of C Hall, 775 Washington Rd., Parlin. The doors will open at 2:00 and dinner served until 6 with calling of numbers for gifts at 4:30. Advanced tickets can be purchased by sending a check to Frog Hollow Swim and Tennis Club, PO Box 3122, South Amboy, NJ 08879. Please be sure to include the number of adults and children when

purchasing them. Price; Adults 13 and up: \$12.00; Children 12 and under \$7.00. The tickets can be picked up at the door the day of the dinner. Cut off for advanced tickets need to be received by April 2nd. Price: Adults 13 and up: \$15.00, Children 12 and under \$10.00. Children under 5: Free. Hall is handicap accessible. If you have any question, please contact Cathy Keays @ 732-947-0403





# Happy Easter



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## YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy's Colonia Learning Center Receives a 4-star Rating from New Jersey's Quality Rating Program

**State-Administered Program Raises the Standard of Quality Child Care and Early Learning Across New Jersey.**

Colonia Learning Center, an affiliate of the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge & South Amboy and the first Star-Rated learning early childhood program in Woodbridge Township, received a 4-star rating for their successful completion of the rigorous, research-based Grow NJ Kids quality rating program.

Grow NJ Kids is New Jersey's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). It offers child care and early learning programs access to training, professional development, staff scholarships for continuing education and targeted technical assistance. Professional raters visit the program to review quality standards and then program participants receive ratings – up to five stars – by meeting an extensive list of quality benchmarks.

More than 40 states across the country have a form of QRIS. In New Jersey, the program is administered by the Departments of Children and Families, Education, Health, and Human Services.

The rating will help further the school's mission to provide quality child care for all children.

"This rating will establish Colonia Learning Center, an affiliate of the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, Woodbridge &

South Amboy, as a high-quality learning early childhood program in Colonia and neighboring towns in Woodbridge. I am extremely proud of the staff that work hard to give our children the highest quality care and education every day." Cindy Shields, Senior Child Care Director.

"Grow NJ Kids offers resources to help educate parents on the importance of quality child care and early childhood education," says Andrea Breitwieser, Grow NJ Kids Coordinator. "It also gives parents and families the tools needed to find programs that will make the most of their kids early learning experiences."

Colonia Learning Center should be proud of their rating, as participation in Grow NJ Kids indicates they provide a higher standard of care, exceeding New Jersey's licensing standards, Breitwieser said.

Colonia Learning Center, located at 400 Inman Avenue in Colonia, provides high quality care and education for children ages 2 ½ through 13: offering Preschool and Kindergarten readiness programs, School Age Child Care for all Colonia elementary schools as well as Colonia Middle School, and various enrichments. You can learn more by visiting the Center.

### Soap Stars Turned Movie Stars

By Debbie Carling

Leonardo DiCaprio (Santa Barbara) Titanic; Marisa Tomei (As The World Turns) My Cousin Vinny; Demi Moore (General Hospital) Ghost; Meg Ryan (As The World Turns) You've Got Mail; Brad Pitt (Another World) Ocean's Eleven; Kevin Bacon (Guiding Light) Footloose; Alec Baldwin (The Doctors) It's Complicated; Morgan Freeman (Another World) The Shawshank Redemption; Tommy Lee Jones (One Life

To Live) No Country For Old Men; Susan Sarandon (Search For Tomorrow) Thelma And Louise; John Stamos (General Hospital) My Big Fat Greek Wedding-2.

### SWMHS 1974 Reunion

Sayreville War Memorial High School Class of 1974 will hold it's 45th class reunion this year. Please contact John at 732-254-2116 for information.

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& Linda Henry  
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## Chairlift Dedication At Sacred Heart

(Photos by Tom Burkard)



Deacon Serge Bernatchez (l) reads a prayer at the dedication of the new chairlift in Sacred Heart's Memorial Hall. Also pictured is Sacred Heart Seniors President Mary Ann Szczepanik (c) and Jim Hoehman (r).



The chairlift will be an excellent aid for people to get to the hall, which has so many stairs to climb.



Deacon Serge (l) Mary Ann Szczepanik (c) and Jim Hoehman (r) following the blessing and dedication of the chairlift.

## New Chairlift A Reality

By Tom Burkard

The stairs at Sacred Heart Memorial Hall are a pretty steep climb for anyone, and even tougher for others, but Seniors President Mary Ann Szczepanik had a dream, which was inspired by an idea from Father Marion, to put in a chair lift, and after much hard-work, dedication and organization, managed to make this a reality.

Mary Ann, in her speech at the dedication, thanked the many people and local organizations who held fundraisers,

to help support the financing of the project, which cost \$14,000, citing the Sacred Heart Seniors, South Amboy K of C #426, Jack from the Keyport IHOP, Rosary Society, Council of Catholic Women, architect Vince Patel, Rocco Cuoco, Deacon Serge, and Jim Hoehman "Our biggest contributor which put us at our goal. Jim said to me, if his mother were alive, she probably would be able to use the chairlift, hence the dedication to his mother's memory."

## South Amboy Bars: 50 Years Ago And Today

By Tom Burkard

In 1969, The City of South Amboy was featured in a News Tribune story about its many bars. The article began with "Every city has something it's famous for. Hollywood has movie stars, New York has the Empire State Building, and South Amboy has bars."

Back then, according to the writer, South Amboy had 36 bars and 8 liquor stores, and it also mentioned that "back in 1963, it was listed in Ripley's Believe It Or Not as the city with the most taverns per square mile." This statement has never been proven true, as many local historians have researched it, and came up empty without any definite proof.

Most of the bars in existence in '69 were issued licenses during World War II, when the city's harbor was frequented by Navy ships, which would tie up in the Raritan Bay for inspection before heading out to sea. In 1947, the state passed a resolution to regulate the number of bars in one town, according to the number of residents living there. Since that time, no new taverns were established even though existing bars and their ownership changed hands frequently.

South Amboy's Mayor 50 years ago was J. Peter Rush, who said, "There's not much we can do about all the bars in South Amboy, because the licenses were obtained before the state passed its law" He also said that he realized that the town was way over the limit of bars for its population, but "That's the way it is. I really have no opinion for or against them."

Edward O'Leary was South Amboy Police Chief at the time and said, "The Police Department has very little trouble with the local bars and package goods stores. The businesses for the most part are law abiding and nothing takes place out of the ordinary."

Fast forward 50 years to today, and South Amboy has approximately 11 bars/restaurants and 4 liquor/convenience stores that sell liquor.

How many bars/liquor stores do you remember from 1969? Can you help us add to the following list? Let us know if you think of any other establishments we missed. Here's what we came up with: Bottle Stop, Cloverleaf, Hillcrest Inn, Pelican's, Jerome's, Anton & Chuck's, Ridgeway Tavern, Roddy's Tavern, Burdak's Tavern, Mike's Tavern, Main Liquors, Bay City Liquors, Spud's, White Eagle, Gay 90's, Wonder Bar, Gaslight Lounge, Romeo's, Red's Package Goods, Ogan's, Frank's Cafe, Fritz's, The Corner Pub. Looks like we identified 20 bars, and 3 liquor stores, and hope you can add to the list.

## VFW Post 4699 4th Annual Classic Rock / Oldies Night Dinner Dance

The Sayreville VFW Post 4699 has announced their date for their 4th annual Support the Troops Dinner Dance Fundraiser as Saturday, April 6th, 2019, at the Post Home, 575 Jernee Mill Road. Doors open at 6pm, with an Open Bar and Buffet Dinner. Tickets are \$50.00 per person. Live Music from

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Mark your new calendars and set the date. We've had a great time and crowd every year, and the Post and Troops need your support. More info to follow in upcoming issues of the Times. Thank You for your Support.



## Coughlin, Grayzel, Metuchen Bank Win YMCA Awards

The YMCA of MEWSA will be holding its Annual Dinner on May 1, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the Pines Manor in Edison. This event is a longstanding tradition that celebrates the highlights of the YMCA of MEWSA, now in its 98th year of service to the Greater Middlesex County community. The Annual Dinner will feature a recap of the year's activities and present the Charles S. Edgar Memorial Award and Peter J. Barnes, Jr. Community Champion Award to deserving members of the community who support and further the YMCA's goals. A new award has been added this year, the Community Partner Award, which is being presented to Metuchen Savings Bank.

The recipient of the Charles S. Edgar Memorial Award is Jan Grayzel. This award is given to an individual who has greatly served the youth of the community, exemplifies community spirit, has contributed to the community through a variety of organizations and in a variety of roles and is responsive to and interested in the work of the YMCA. Jan has been on the YMCA Board of Directors for 28 years, and has served in many capacities. She chaired the Metuchen Branch for 10 years, and has been Vice-Chair of the Association Board for the last 4 years. Jan has also served on the Board Governance Committee for the last 15 years and has also chaired the Edgar Award Committee for the last four years. Her volunteerism began when her children, Daniel and Rebecca, started attending public school in Metuchen. She became a class parent and also served as president of the PTO and PT Council. Jan is a Certified Personal Trainer and Certified Health Coach, and has a wellness business in Metuchen.

The Peter J. Barnes Jr. Community Champion Award will be presented to Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin. This award is given to an individual who has a legacy of community service, is responsive to and interested in the work of the YMCA, serves as an example for others of leadership, integrity and the core values of the YMCA: caring, honesty, respect and responsibility. Coughlin has served with the New Jersey General Assembly since 2010 where he represents the 19th Legislative District. He has served as Speaker of the New Jersey

General Assembly since 2018. He is also a partner on the law firm Rainone, Coughlin, Minchello. Coughlin has been very active within his hometown community of South Amboy, serving on the Board of Education from 1983 to 1987 and the South Amboy Borough Council from 1987 to 1993. He is also instrumental in running the annual Bowl For Hunger fundraiser, which has raised over \$180,000 in the last nine years for local food banks. He worked as an attorney before serving as a municipal court judge for Edison Township in 2005. Some of his major accomplishments include sponsoring the bill to gradually increase the minimum wage to \$15, spearheading the efforts to advance a package of anti-hunger bills, ending surprise out-of-network medical bills, introducing legislation to provide tax credits to businesses who expand or modernize their manufacturing plant or machinery, legislation to expedite and prioritize the remediation and reuse of vacant and underused public property and legislation that would allow local, county and school governments to shop for the most affordable health insurance coverage for their employees.

Metuchen Savings Bank is being honored with the first time ever Community Partner award. The Community Partner award celebrates and recognizes community organizations who have made significant contributions to the YMCA and the community. Metuchen Savings Bank has a long history of strength, stability and service to Metuchen and the surrounding communities. It has been instrumental in supporting the YMCA of MEWSA, sponsoring many of their events and fundraisers and serving as major advocates to their Annual Support Campaign. The award will be accepted by Katherine Liseno, President & CEO of Metuchen Bank.

The recipients will be honored at the 2019 Annual Dinner of the YMCA of Metuchen, Edison, and Woodbridge & South Amboy on Wednesday, May 1st, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the Pines Manor in Edison, NJ. The cost is \$80.00 per person. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Catherine Haugh at 732-516-9200, ext. 1104 or at [catherine.haugh@ymcaofmews.org](mailto:catherine.haugh@ymcaofmews.org).

## The Final 37 Valedictorians Of St. Mary's/ McCarrick HS

By Ed Twomey

1980-Elissa McGovern 1981-Eileen Toolan 1982-Beverly Godlesky 1983-Tom Radwanski 1984-Jeanne Radwanski 1985-John Radwanski 1986-Robert Waltz 1987-Patricia Radwanski 1988-Carolyn Rossetti 1989-Johanna Quiroga 1990-Scott Rufolo 1991-Claudia Lucas 1992-Michelle Alcala 1993-Michelle Figliuolo 1994-Lisa Coppola 1995-Samantha Treese 1996-Heather Budsock 1997-Courtney Kierst 1998-Rebecca Kopacz 1999-Priti Patel

2000-Danielle Krumme 2001-Alaina Dowd 2002-Christina Prumos 2003-Deanna Balili 2004-Alicia Dombrowski 2005-Katherine Levering 2006-Nicollette Kontor 2007-Brittany Biesiada 2008-Delfin Balili 2009-Joanna Prumos 2010-(tie) Victoria Lussier, Catherine Ricabance 2011-Edward Molina 2012-Amanda Kontor 2013-Emely DeJesus 2014-Briann Downes 2015-Mark Farrell.

## AC Trip & Everly Brothers Experience May 29

Sacred Heart Seniors will sponsor an Atlantic City trip to Caesar's Palace Casino to see the Everly Brothers Experience. Enjoy songs like "Bye Bye Love," "Cathy's Clown," "Wake UP Little Susie," "Bird Dog," "Crying In The Rain," "All I Have To Do Is Dream," and "Let It Be Me." Cost of \$90 includes

round trip motor coach transportation, the show, and buffet lunch. You'll also receive \$25 in slot money to enjoy at the casino. Coach leaves 9:30 a.m. from the Sacred Heart parking lot. For more information call Judy at 732-727-0154.

## Wills and Power of Attorney

Kenneth Vercammen, Esq. will present 2019 changes to Federal and New Jersey Estate and Gift Taxes, as well as power of attorney, living wills, and advance directives at Sayreville Public Library on Tuesday, April 9, at 6:30PM. Sayreville Library is located at 1050 Washington Rd., Parlin.

This event is free and open to the public, not just Sayreville residents. Registration at [www.sayrevillelibrary.org](http://www.sayrevillelibrary.org) is suggested. Please also visit the Sayreville Public Library Events Calendar on our website at for more information.

## Palm Cross Sale

The Sacred Heart Rosary Society will offer beautiful palm crosses for purchase during the weekends of March 30 & 31 and April 6 & 7. Sales on Saturday will be from 3PM to 5PM and on Sunday from 7:30AM to 1 PM, in front of Memorial Hall, 529 Washington Avenue, South Amboy.

The cost is \$8 for one cross and \$15 for

two. Remember your departed loved ones during the Easter season with decorative cemetery crosses.

Please call Virginia at 732-721-1521 with any questions.

## Our Lady of Victories

(Photos/Info Submitted)



Grand Falloons actors performed a show to OLV School Middle School students about how we can conserve energy and eliminate waste products to save the planet.



Grade 1 students placed second place at local cheerleading competition!



Middle School students send Virtual Valentine's cards to children in St. Jude's Hospital



Grandparents come to OLV School to participate in STEM Day



Our Lady of Victories Church celebrated noon mass on March 24th with Bishop Checchio. The Bishop is pictured with Father Ryan, our school principal Mrs Kitts and some of the OLV teachers Mrs Hockenjos, Mrs Romer and Mrs Misiewicz along with some of the OLV students





### Unity Bank Donation Supports South Plainfield Schools

Unity Bank Donation Supports South Plainfield Schools' Harlem Wizards Fundraiser Set for March 30th

Unity Bank donated \$1,000 to the Roosevelt Elementary School of South Plainfield for the second annual Harlem Wizards fundraiser to be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 30th at the South Plainfield High School Gymnasium. The fun community event is a fundraiser for the local elementary schools and will feature the South Plainfield

Teaching Tigers against the Wizards. Pictured (from left) are Jacqueline Dellipoali, PTO President for Roosevelt Elementary School, and Paige Burwell, Unity Bank South Plainfield Relationship Manager. Roosevelt Elementary is the main host for the event with help from John E Riley Elementary, Franklin Elementary, John F. Kennedy and Grant School. For tickets, please visit <https://www.harlemwizards.com/schedule-tickets/>.

### Christmas Entertainment Trip To Lancaster


Sacred Heart Seniors are sponsoring a 3 day 2 night trip to rustic Lancaster PA to see two wonderful Christmas shows. Cost of \$409 includes tickets for "The Miracle Of Christmas," at the Sight And Sound Millennium Theatre, and "Joy To The World," at the American Music Theatre. The trip includes two nights lodging, two

breakfasts, two dinners, including a family style smorgasbord dinner. The trip includes Tanger Outlets shopping, and visit to the old western Kitchen Kettle Village. You will also get a souvenir gift. Luggage, handling, transportation, taxes, and tips are included. For more information call Judy at 732-727-0154.

### Car Show June 7

For all of you car enthusiasts, the South Amboy Knights of Columbus hold their annual spring car show Friday June 7 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the K of C parking lot at 308



Fourth St. South Amboy. Please bring a non-perishable food item for donations to local food pantries. For more information call 732-721-2025.




## The Historical Society of South Amboy Annual Open House

### Genealogy Research & Resources

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**Grand Opening**  
(Photos by Tom Burkard)



**South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry does the honors and the ribbon falls at the Grand Opening of Java Dave's Coffee on 110 North Broadway in South Amboy.**



**Pictured (l-r) Councilwoman Zusette Dato, Councilman Tom Reilly, Mayor Fred Henry, Owner Efren Castro, and Councilwoman-At-Large Christine Noble are pictured welcoming the new business into South Amboy.**

**NO FOOLIN': APRIL EVENTS AT THE DOWDELL LIBRARY**

After a long, cold, windy winter, spring is finally here! It's the perfect time to turn over a new leaf and, down at the Dowdell Library, business is blooming. Just take a look at what's sprouting anew!

The Dowdell Library is looking forward to celebrating Chinese culture at its Celebrate! The Year of the Pig program on Sunday, April 7, starting at 1:30pm. Program attendees will be entertained by a Lion Dance outside the library at the start of the event. Art stations will highlight interesting and delightful Asian arts, while musical ensembles, a fashion show, K-pop, and traditional dance will round out the afternoon. Attendees with tickets will be treated to a taste of China and door prizes will be available at the conclusion of the program.

Looking to destress (and get a leg up on your professional life)? Sign up for the Dowdell's new Yoga for Success series! The first session will run from 6:30pm to 7:30pm on Tuesday, April 9. Registration is required!

On the hunt for the ultimate sedentary workout? The Dowdell's Yoga for Health series is waiting for you! The first session of this chair yoga program will run from 2:30pm to 3:30pm on Saturday, April 20. Registration is required!

Celebrity Storytime is back by popular demand! On Thursday, April 11 at 3:30pm, join South Amboy's very own Mayor Henry and the South Amboy Police Department and get lost in the world of children's literature!

Whether you're starting a summer slim down or just looking for a simple way to improve your lifestyle, you ought to attend the Dowdell's Healthy Eating Tips seminar! Presented by registered dietician Laura Vetter of St. Peter's University Hospital, this event will start at 11am on Thursday, April 18. Enjoy light refreshments while learning more about the value of a well-balanced diet!

Tax season is nearing its conclusion, and the Dowdell is happy to offer its services to those who welcome a hand while preparing their returns. Individuals earning less than \$64,000 annually are eligible to sign up for the free VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program. Drop-off assistance is available on Monday, April 8 and Thursday, April 11 from 10am to 12pm. Registration is required; contact the library for additional

**OLV Trip to Cape May**

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to Cape May on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. The cost of the trip is \$145 which includes a narrated cruise, Tea Luncheon at the Emlen Physick Estate, guided tour of Cape

information about this valuable service!

Need help troubleshooting or learning to use your computer, phone, tablet, e-reader, or other device? Stop by the library! Our ongoing Digital Café program offers tech assistance three times weekly: Mondays and Wednesdays from 12pm to 2pm, and Thursdays from 6:30pm to 8pm.

Have an abiding interest in the latest technology? Every Thursday between 6:30pm and 7:30pm, stop in at the Dowdell's Adult Tech Corner, where you'll discover a new topic every week! No

devices are necessary for participation.

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers: give yourself the gift of some much-needed R&R by bringing your little ones to the Dowdell's thrice-weekly toddler programs! Rock Along Toddler Time with Robbie the Robot runs Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1pm to 2pm. Your little musician can join Robbie the Robot to have fun with magnetic shapes, practice shape, number, and color skills, and listen to delightful stories.

Though school's out for spring break the week of April 22, things are in full swing at the Dowdell! On Monday, participate in a Lend a Seed Earth Day planting program; on Tuesday, take to the skies with Paper Airplane Pandemonium; on Wednesday, celebrate our planet with 3-D printed models of the Earth; on Thursday, snack on MIY quesadillas, draw 3-D objects with 3-D pens, and configure your own snap circuit grid; and on Friday, lose yourself in a full day of Nintendo Switch gaming! With the exception of Friday's Switch gaming, all these events will run from 2:30pm to 4:30pm.

Curious what else is going on at your local library? (We can never fit everything here!) Stop by in-person or visit our website to sign up for our newsletter and view adult and children's activity calendars, which are updated on a monthly basis.

Comments, queries, compliments? Please visit [www.dowdell.org](http://www.dowdell.org), or contact the Library at 732-721-6060 or [comments@dowdell.org](mailto:comments@dowdell.org). The library is located off John O'Leary Blvd, adjacent to South Amboy Middle High School.

May, shopping time bus transportation and bus driver gratuity. For further information or to reserve a seat please contact Finita at 732-721-5081.



Dennis Solokowski of Sayreville was out with his dog Leo, and ran into a seal one recent morning at Waterfront Park in South Amboy/Sayreville. (Photo/info courtesy of Bob Masterson)

**Raritan Valley YMCA Swimmer Becomes 5-time State Champion**

**East Brunswick's Katherine Kennedy won 5 events in the age 10 & Under Division at the New Jersey YMCA State Championships.**

As the last weekend in February began, there was a good chance that Katherine Kennedy might win the first individual state title in over 10 years for East Brunswick's Raritan Valley YMCA Riptide swim team. The suspense didn't last long, as Kennedy won the first event held in the 10 & under age group. Twenty minutes later, she won again. By Sunday night, she had won 5 times. No one else in her division won more than 2 of the meet's 11 individual events.

12 & under YMCA States, held February 22nd to 24th at Ocean County YMCA in Toms River, brings together the very best swimmers from 27 different YMCAs in New Jersey. Qualifying times are extremely selective, as less than 20% of competitive swimmers achieve times to attend the meet each year. The 10 & under girls age division featured 11 individual events for approximately 150 of the state's best young athletes. Kennedy stood out from the pack, winning the 50, 100, and 200 Free (27.60, 59.42, 2:14.81) as well as 100 and 200 individual medley (1:08.64, 2:29.84). She also added a second-place in 50 Fly (30.03).

"She probably had a shot to win in some other strokes as well, but you are only allowed to enter 6 events maximum. It's hard to choose for her because she's very well-rounded," said Brian Rose, RVY Riptide head coach. "It's unbelievable how she keeps getting better by the week. Your best swimmer to begin the year is rarely your most-improved swimmer by the end of the year, but that's Katherine. She keeps coming to practice with a sense of maturity and purpose. She's one of the few younger kids for whom I could give them a written practice, and they'll keep the whole lane on task even if a coach isn't instructing them the entire time."

Several other swimmers for RVY Riptide earned point-scoring finishes (top-16) at the meet. Riptide loaded up on points in the freestyle events, getting scores from East Brunswick's Isabella Loufek (15th in 200 Free, 2:35.02) and East Windsor's Elizabeth Molinelli (14th in 200 Free, 2:34.88; 15th in 100 Free, 1:09.33). Kaileigh Kennedy finished 10th in 100 Free with 1:08.11 and 8th in 200 Free with 2:27.75, making the Kennedy sisters the two all-time fastest 10 & under girls in 200 Free over the 24-year history of the RVY Riptide swim team.

Molinelli, Loufek and the Kennedy sisters combined to finish 3rd in the 200 Free Relay, an unusually high finish in a meet



**Katherine Kennedy**

normally dominated by larger YMCAs. The 200 Medley Relay team of the Kennedys, Molinelli, and South Amboy's Erin Noble finished 8th.

Joey Guadagnino, age 9 from North Brunswick, finished 9th in the Boys 10 & under 50 Breast. Guadagnino is more than a year younger than most of the event's competitors, and began the day seeded 33rd.

"I love watching the 10 & unders and the 12 & unders compete at this meet," said Rose. "They have a level of professionalism toward their practices and races, you would never believe how young they are. They push themselves in ways that many adults would back down from. Swimming develops incredible people. And we have a real team here. This is not an individual sport. We've got a lot of very talented young kids who will be pushing each other to become better for years to come."

Tryouts for next winter's swim team will be held in July and are open to swimmers age 5 and up. Swimmers looking to prepare for the tryout, or the summer season, can sign up now for Riptide's "Spring Fling" training program, which starts in April. More details are at [rvyriptide.org](http://rvyriptide.org). Non-swimmers can learn to swim by attending Raritan Valley YMCA swim lessons or joining the Raritan Valley YMCA summer camp, details at [raritanvalleyymca.org](http://raritanvalleyymca.org).

**Credit and Your Rights**

New Jersey Citizen Action will be presenting a program on credit and your consumer rights at Sayreville Public Library on Wednesday, April 10, at 6:30PM. Topics will include: basic consumer financial protection laws, credit types/risks/benefits, and your credit report. Sayreville Library

is located at 1050 Washington Rd., Parlin.

This event is free and open to the public, not just Sayreville residents. Registration at [www.sayrevillelibrary.org](http://www.sayrevillelibrary.org) is suggested. Please also visit the Sayreville Public Library Events Calendar on our website at for more information.

**Palm Crosses Sale.**

St. Stanislaus Kostka Rosary Altar Society, 225 MacArthur Ave., Sayreville, will be selling Palm Crosses 24" for \$7.00 in the church lobby on Saturdays 4 pm - 6 pm &

Sundays 8 am - 1 pm.. March 30th & 31st, April 6th, 7th. Final pick up Saturday, April 13th. You can also place orders by calling Pat 732-257-3963 or Yvonne 732-257-4634.



## A 50-60's Walk Down Broadway

By Retired Colonel Dan Cheeseman

It's 1957 in a small New Jersey town referred to as the "Pleasant Little City." I'm at the corner of Broadway and Bordentown Ave. looking north toward Main St. It's a simple time; a time of good and bad-but mostly good (post-WW2 and Korea but Viet Nam is starting). South Amboy is a melting pot of cultures, religions, and ethnicities. It's a railroad hub for the Jersey Shore and has a deep anchorage for barges and oil tankers in the Raritan Bay. Broadway reflects the core of South Amboy and many of the residents make their living working in and owning the stores and markets on Broadway. Our dads work in the surrounding plants, in the city itself or commute to New York, while many of our moms are employed by Komars, a clothing manufacturer, located in town. It's a safe city—a city where a 7-8-year old can visit the stores along Broadway and fear no harm. If you need help, there's always a store owner who knows your family, and will call your mom or walk you home. It is a simpler time! So let's start our walk down Broadway!

Our first stop is the US Post Office, situated in a building owned by Mr. Munn, an entrepreneur who owns the Raritan Diner and built Munns Village. Nana always needs something mailed. As I walk in, I see Mr. Brinamen and Postmaster Stader at the front window. Since they both know my dad, our conversations often center on baseball.

Our next stop is the Starlight Diner situated a short distance from the post office. A hamburger and sandwich joint that always has a daily Blue Plate Special. It's a typical east coast diner with comfort food.

Off I go across the street to Eagle Market, the market for the southeast side of town, owned by Bill Brown and his wife Hilda. I see Mr. Brown, and as always, he says, "Hi Young Trip, whatever you need, see Audrey." Audrey has been behind the counter since as long as I can remember. The Eagle Market sells lunch meat, other groceries, and household items. Next door is the Eagle Package Store, a liquor store that sells all kinds of spirits and keeps this part of town refreshed!

From there I come upon a South Amboy landmark—the Cloverleaf Bar. The Cloverleaf has a marching string band, so you never know when there might be a parade on the south end of Broadway.

Across the street, by the railroad tracks, is English's Sunoco. It's owned by

Frank "Horse" English, a local gas station entrepreneur. For years "Horse" has been running the Little League All-Star Team and many of us play for him as Little Leaguers. Wow, in one block one is able to mail a package, get groceries, pick up some wine, fill up the gas tank and have a bike tire fixed. It's a simpler time.

Next highlight along the way is a very cool little store called Joe Smokes. It's a smoke shop that sells penny candy, cigarettes, papers, soda, and hand-dipped Dolly Madison Ice Cream. They also have the supply of Spaulding stick balls. Joe is actually my Uncle Joe Quinlan; his wife is Lizzie. Both of them are hard workers and take care of the store every day. It's a busy little store, and if you're somebody in SA, you always stop by at Joe Smokes.

Across from Joe's is Mae and Jack's Tavern. Our friend Richie Johnson's grandparents own this local watering hole. As I walk past Mae & Jack's I come upon Power's Florist and Bay City Liquor where Henry Pfeffer has been a long time employee.

Across the street, at the Henry Street intersection, I see Norton's Meat Market - a place where one can purchase all types of fresh meats and sausages. It looks like Sarah Bloodgood's working today. Of course, I have to stop in at one of my favorite places, Lou's Bakery. My aunt is behind the counter. Lou's has the best fresh loaves of bread and rolls but is known for its strawberry shortcake. The bridge to the railroad station is also right here. It looks like a large group of kids is heading to Perth Amboy to go to the movies and have pizza. The movies are pretty much always old westerns and cartoons.

The west side of the block looks very busy. Oppenheim's Five and Ten is a first-generation Walmart kind of store where they have everything; toys, clothes, boots, winter coats. Next stop is Green's Mens Store. Best place in the county to buy a suit. Mr. Chiulli and his wife are working today, a good businessman and very nice people. Onward! I need to stop in and say hi to Lou, a friend of my dad. Lou runs Zall's, the local magazine and newspaper store. Zall's has a lunch and ice cream bar and people gather here every night, especially in the summer, around 9:30 pm. That's because the train from New York brings the NY papers containing all the horse racing results for the day. It's a

simpler time. No internet betting!

Across the street from Zall's is South Amboy First Savings and Loan, Jerome's Bar and Siemer's Hardware. There's Adam Rzepka, founder of the bank, and Tom Nebus an employee at the hardware store. While waiting for the train to change engines, the commuters stop in at Jerome's for a shot. In fact, I've been told Mrs. Jerome knows exactly who drinks what and has the glasses all lined up on the bar in time for the train's arrival!

Oh, I forgot to go to the bank; got to put a \$1.00 in the Christmas Club. So it's off to the Amboy National Bank. It's a fancy structure and you can see the vault. It's right out of Jimmy Stewart's Christmas movie It's a Wonderful Life. Another favorite on this side of the street is Oscar Reiner's Hardware Store. My mission is to pick up a pound of 8 penny nails. In the winter Mr. Reiner sells Red Flag Sleighs. A great store and family. Holden Jewelers is also here. A very beautiful store! I would bet that many of the engagement and wedding bands for people from South Amboy are purchased here. Straub's Meat Market and Ploskonka's Shoe Repair are also on this side. It's about \$2.00 for new soles and heels—it's a simpler time.

Between David and Augusta Street are the two 1950's supermarket type stores—Safeway and A&P. The A&P is older and dates back to the early days of the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company. A&P is the Cheeseman's choice, but I have no idea why. A favorite by the A&P is the Daylight Bakery. A great business run by Polish immigrants. Everything is baked fresh daily. A South Amboy favorite from here is the cream doughnuts! Also in this section of town is Madura's Pharmacy. These are the days of not many over the counter meds, so you need to get a prescription from either Doc Hoffman or Dr. Hesseltine. These doctors are ahead of the times with their concierge service making house calls. All drug stores seem to have lunch counters and Madura's is no exception. I definitely give them the egg salad sandwich award.

Crossing over Augusta St. we come to the Corner Pub, SA Auto Parts, and Frank's Radio and Electric. This is the appliance center for the town, and where I bought my first portable shortwave radio. Next is the Independence Firehouse. Firehouses

in South Amboy are important places. The firemen are all volunteers and take their job seriously. Almost all members are vets, and many saw combat in WW-2 or Korea. The firehouse supports youth baseball, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

We look across the street and see the Trust Company, Arky's Pharmacy, O'Connor's Ice Cream Parlor and a South Amboy favorite, Albern's Seafood. On Friday there's a fish fry. These are the days of no meat on Friday for Catholics, and since I would estimate that South Amboy is over 60% Catholic, it's always packed. Next is Peterson's Pharmacy, and then the Pennsylvania Railroad YMCA. If you have a contact, you can always make yourself a little money setting up the pins in the bowling alley.

Back across the street is Greco's Barber Shop, the Gas Company, Jasper's Fruit and Vegetable Market, and

Doctor McFarlane's office. For me, there are two special stores in this section of town, Melrose Toy and Sporting Goods, and Crane's Hobby Shop! Oh, and I can't forget Soltis' Tailor Shop. As we head up Broadway, I can see Mr. Welsh at the Miller Bergen and Welsh lumber yard. There's no such thing as Home Depot or Lowe's.

One spot of historical significance is the home of Governor Harold G. Hoffman. Hoffman, who was born in South Amboy in 1896. After WW-I he returned home and served as the 41st Governor of New Jersey from 1935 to 1938. Governor Hoffman passed away in 1954 and is buried in Christ Church Cemetery.

Our last stop is Briggs Chevrolet. I'm going to stop and take a look at the early Corvettes with my hope of owning one after I get my driver's license.

Broadway and South Amboy are magical places. I have two favorite times. When it's snowing on Christmas Eve, I love looking at the Christmas lights my Uncle Ang from Dooling Electric put up. The street is so quiet; all you hear are the train engines changing, the whistles and the steam. Another favorite is when all the teams march down Broadway during the Little League Parade. The most important time of all, however, is the Memorial Day Parade. With so many of our dads having gone to war South Amboy is a patriotic city. So that's it! I honor the people of South Amboy from this time.

## The Geologic History of South Amboy and Vicinity

Part 2 – Life Before the Dinosaurs

By James O. Brown, Ph.D.

In Part 1, I lamented about the lack of "local" rocks in South Amboy and vicinity with regard to Earth's first four billion years. This problem also holds true for the next 300 million years, in a Geologic Time known as the Paleozoic ("Ancient Life") Era. This era is the first part of the Phanerozoic ("Visible Life") Eon. Paleozoic rocks are fairly common in northern New Jersey and New York state, but are no longer found as bedrock in our area: all we have in town are "carpetbaggers". [Translation: once again we need to look elsewhere to understand what was going on in South Amboy 540 to 250 million years ago!]

Back in the late 1960's as a young boy exploring on the "Landfill" (or "Extraback": to be discussed in Part 7), I came upon one of those "carpet-baggers": a dark gray cobble size rock with some imprints on it that I recognized as fossils. I would later figure out that the small half-inch size impressions on the rock were of a type of animal called a brachiopod (or "lamp shell"). Ironically, 30 years later while working on my Ph.D. in Pennsylvania, I would find the same genus of fossil. Brachiopods are still found in today's oceans, but they are not as common and diverse as back in their Paleozoic heyday. Brachiopods superficially resemble a clam or oyster you might find today on the beach, but biologists know that their soft parts are a totally different type of animal. In fact, clams and oysters are more closely related to snails and squids than they are to lamp shells. When compared to the PreCambrian (see Part 1), life in the Paleozoic was bigger, more diverse and more complex, although

the plants and animals present would only vaguely look familiar to what we see today.

A few years after my first fossil find, I would collect many more Paleozoic fossils, notably in the gravel beds that form the higher parts of South Amboy and Sayreville (to be discussed in Parts 5 and 6). Most of these fossils would typically be found on white-spotted orange to brown gravel. The gravel ranges in size from a quarter of inch to two inches in diameter. Besides lamp shells on these gravels, I would also find extinct corals, crinoids (also called "sea lilies" that are animals distantly related to starfish), and also rare specimens of a distant relative of the horseshoe crab called trilobites. The fossils and the rounded pieces of rock they are found in have been mineralized into a sedimentary rock called chert. It takes patience to find these fossils as maybe one out of a hundred rounded gravels will contain something that is readily recognizable as a fossil. Again, these "carpetbaggers" originally hail from up north in New Jersey, New York and possibly from Pennsylvania that represent an ocean that once covered this region.

Thanks to Plate Tectonics, the noted early "pre-Atlantic" ocean was destroyed at least once, when what is today eastern North America, western Europe and northwest Africa collided together. This collision formed a supercontinent that included the Appalachian Mountains which probably by the end of the Paleozoic were as majestic as the Rockies are today in terms of elevation. Rocks of the very last part of the Paleozoic Era and oldest part of the Mesozoic ("Middle Life") Era are extremely rare in eastern North

America, so we need to appreciate this as the beginning of weathering of the Appalachians. [Translation: As previously noted in Part 1, both Life and the Landscape in South Amboy have frequently changed over time.]

In summary, life before the dinosaurs in South Amboy can only be inferred from rocks and fossils found elsewhere: notably in northwestern New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. The millions of years represented by the Paleozoic Era had at different times many different environments representing life on land or in the ocean. [Translation: if it weren't for the carpetbaggers, we wouldn't have much to say about this time in South Amboy's Geologic History.]

Recommend References:

For general, college level textbook as an introduction to geology and more thorough description of concepts and terms:

Marshak, S. (2013) Essentials of Geology 5th ed., W.W. Norton, New York

For more technical information, the following are good starters:

Stanford, S. D. 1993. Surficial Geology of the South Amboy Quadrangle Middlesex and Monmouth Counties, New Jersey, N.J. Geology Survey Open-File Map OFM 18, Department of Environmental Protection, Land Use Management, New Jersey Geological Survey, Scale 1:24,000.

Sugarman, Peter J., Stanford, Scott D., Owens, James P. and Brenner, Gilbert J. 2005. Bedrock Geology of the South Amboy Quadrangle Middlesex and Monmouth Counties, New Jersey, Open File Map OFM 65, Department of Environmental

Protection, Land Use Management, New Jersey Geological Survey, Scale 1:24,000.

About the author: See Part 1 (November 17, 2018 SAS Times) for details. Jim Brown was recently elected for the second time as President of the Geological Association of New Jersey. He is locally involved with Troop 91 and the Camp Dill Foundation.

Still to come:

**Part 3** – The Dinosaurs of Raritan Bay and Vicinity

**Part 4** – Life After the Dinosaurs

**Part 5** – Before the Bay: "Tundra Time", A Mile of Ice and the Great(?) Flood(s?)

**Part 6** – The Local Geology's Impact on Humanity These Past 12,000 Years

**Part 7** – The Impact of Humanity on the Local Geology These Past 500 Y

PRAYER TO ST. ANTHONY

O holy St. Anthony, reach down from heaven and take hold of my hand. Assure me that I am not alone. You are known to possess miraculous powers and to be ever ready to speak for those in trouble. Loving and gentle St. Anthony, reach down from heaven I implore you and assist me in my hour of need. Obtain for me (mention request here). Dearest St. Anthony, reach down from heaven and guide me with thy strength. Plead for me in my needs. And teach me to be humbly thankful as you were for all the bountiful blessings I am to receive. – M.S.

PRAYER TO THE BLESSED MOTHER

(Never known to fail) Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me, herein you are my mother. Oh, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth! I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. Oh, show me herein you are my mother. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Say this prayer for 3 consecutive days. You must publish it and it will be granted to you. Thank you. -S.S.





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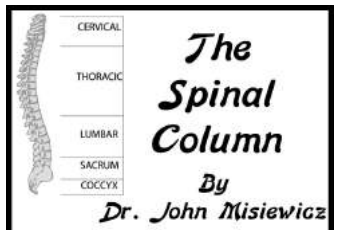
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**Spring Safety For Kids**

Spring has arrived with the days getting longer and warmer. Children are playing outside more and more. Spring sports and activities can cause injuries.

**BASEBALL**

Spring fever and baseball fever go hand in hand, but injuries still happen when playing. In fact almost a half million baseball-related injuries are treated in doctors' offices and emergency rooms with the head involved more often than any other body part.

1. Always wear a batting helmet that meets the standards of the Nat'l Operating Committee on standard athletic equipment. When at bat, waiting to bat and running the bases.

2. Wear appropriate eye protection. Fielders should wear eyewear that meets the standards of ASTM, F803. Baseball batters and base runners should choose eyewear that meets ASTM standard F910.

3. Catchers should always use a catcher's mitt and wear a helmet, face-mask and throat guard, long model chest protector, protective supporter and shin guards.

4. Pitchers should follow guidelines about the number of innings pitched as recommended by their baseball league. About 4 to 10 innings per week depending upon age.

Other than wearing protective gear, there are three main areas in which sports injuries may be prevented. First and foremost is the strength of the skeletal muscles. The majority of sports injuries occur in the closing stages of the game when fatigue causes movements to become uncoordinated and accidents are more likely.

The second area protective equipment, which tends to either support or shield parts of the body at risk. In general, sports, is in itself a developmental activity, such development occurring through body parts gradually and increasingly stressed and compensating for this extra load.

The third aspect in injury prevention is the game, or contest rules themselves. Whatever athletes may think, most rules are formed by experienced competitors in order to make the game more enjoyable, demanding and safe.

As always, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

**Alone Again**

**Author Unknown**

I wish someone would tell me what it is  
 That I've done wrong,  
 Why I have to stay chained up  
 and Left alone so long.  
 They seemed so glad to have me when I came here as a pup.  
 There were so many things we'd do  
 While I was growing up.  
 They couldn't wait to train me as a companion and a friend,  
 And told me how they'd never fear being left alone again.  
 The children said they'd feed me  
 and brush me every day.  
 They'd play with me and walk me  
 If I could only stay.  
 But now the family "hasn't time";  
 They often say I shed,  
 They do not want me in the house not even to be fed.  
 The children never walk me,  
 They always say, "not now!"  
 I Wish that I could please them,  
 Won't someone tell me how?  
 All I had, you see, was love,  
 I wish they would explain  
 Why they said they wanted me,  
 Then left me on a chain?



**South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade**

Photos by Brian Stratton



All Aboard!!



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Parade Princess  
Erin Noble



SA Irish American  
Association  
Irish Person  
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Mike Green



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SAT

**St. Stan's School**

(Photos/Info Submitted)



Deacon David Mikolai and Father Sean Winters distribute ashes to the students and staff at St. Stan's School on Ash Wednesday.



Fifth grade St. Stan's student TJ Pavlonnis helps kindergarten student Jacob Kuras read during Literacy Day as Kurt Vranica looks on.



St. Stan's fifth grade students and Religion club members strike a pose before leading the students in their annual Pep Rally to raise money for St. Jude's Hospital. From left to right: Sofia Krupinski, Marceline Zimny, Caolinn Lang, Kirsten Castaneda, TJ Pavlonnis and Walter Christian, III.





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South Amboy Mayor Fred Henry (r) is pictured with his wife Linda Henry following his State of the City Address. She is holding a beautiful bouquet of flowers he presented to her towards the end of the Address. (Photo by Tom Burkard)

**Fishing Flashes**  
By Teo "Weebles" Weber

**Salt Water**  
The dead of winter continues for us with the exceptionally cold weather we have been having. The Bay opened up on March 1st. I heard of 2 keeper Stripers, one at Keansburg, another at Leonardo. More fish will be caught later on but it won't be that great. I checked Keansburg one time but didn't see anyone fishing. With Blackfish season now closed, the party boats are left with a pick on Ling and a Cod or two. Most of the boats are not running and are laid up for maintenance. The best thing going right now is a good White Perch bite on blood worms in Toms River off the docks. A few Flounder and some short Stripers can be found among them. There are a few Keepers around too. A few Flounder were caught in the Shark River. They may catch a few more but too much cold water has hampered fishing.

**Fresh Water**  
It was the worst of both of both worlds when it came to fresh water fishing. Most of the ice in upstate lakes started to melt so that it was not safe and the cold was keeping most of the lakes covered and making stream fishing difficult. It's been like that most of the winter. I gave it a try on the Pequest on President's Day in the afternoon for a few hours. The water conditions were high but clear. Outside of a nibble on a worm, all I did was put in time. I fished it hard with bait and lures, but it was no go! Opening day for Trout Season is April 6th at 8 AM after stream closings for restocking.



**Gone Fishin'**



A big eye tuna weighing approximately 700 lbs was caught by these skilled local fisherman on Feb. 17, 2019. The tuna was caught off of Oregon Inlet, NC. Fisherman standing from left to right include - Gregory Harrison, Brian Judnick, Brian Selover, Robert Lockwood and Mike Lockwood. Kneeling is TJ McNally. (Photo/info submitted)



## Where in New Jersey?



All aboard! This month's where in NJ is one of our secret hidden places! Send your answers to Satimes@aol.com by April 15th.

### February Information Where in New Jersey? By Brian & Phyllis Stratton

The February Where in NJ was Delicious Orchards located on Route 34 in Colts Neck NJ. An incorrect guess was Dearborn Farms in Holmdel. The following people correctly identified the business: Dennis Quinlan, Sheila Knudsen, Ron Sturgis, Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss, Pat & Bill Scully, Gerry Sherry, Leon Credico, Jim Holovacko, Elizabeth Leveille, Peggy and Steve Yuhas, Mary Agnes Morris, Chelle Martin, Pete McIntyre, Art San Filippo, Kevin Kania, Dawn Roberts, Joe Wolski, Chuck Pickard, Dane Colburn, Jim Malkiewicz.

\*Pat & Bill Scully, and Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss all had February's answer correct, but were inadvertently omitted from our Feb. Jan. winners list.



February:  
Delicious Orchards  
Route 34  
Colts Neck, New Jersey



## South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade

Photos by Tom Burkard



The Brick House float was once again dedicated in memory of their beloved Carmen, a wonderful lady never forgotten.



Mark Rasimowicz, South Amboy City Engineer and Honorary Grand Marshal and his wife Helen Rasimowicz.



Al's Auto Body has been one of the top businesses in the area for 49 years. His float carried fine young musicians.



American Legion Luke A. Lovely Post #62, South Amboy looks great rounding The corner of North Stevens Ave. onto Main St.



The South Amboy Fire Dept., always the best in the state, looks sharp in their hometown parade.



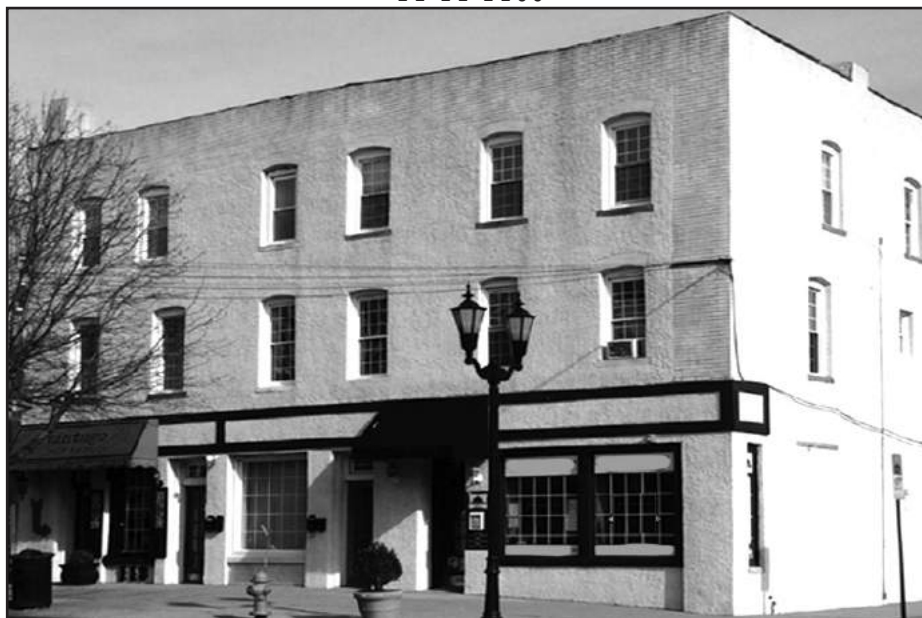
The Melrose Blackhawks continue to please crowds wherever they participate



Young players having a great time participating in the parade.



## WWW.?



Does anyone know what South Amboy or Sayreville business this is now, or was years ago? Send your answers in to: satimes@aol.com. Good luck! (Photo by Tom Burkard)

### WWW.? Winners For February

Last month's Mystery Photo was of the Charles Komar & Sons factory on North Stevens Ave. in South Amboy. The business provided a living for thousands of local people throughout its many years in operation as Komar's. It has had other owners through the years, and was once called Top Gift Lot. The following correctly identified the structure: Estelle Pluskota, Chuck Pickard, Dennis Quinlan, Don Zrebiec, Marie Dean, Joan Gorczyca, Eleanore Westerholm, Laurie and Gary Loftus, Jack Piskorski, Keith Piskorski & Lorraine Krauss, Pat & Bill Scully, Steve

Laskiewicz, Maryanne Matarangolo, Gerry Sherry, Leon Credico, Jim Holovacko, Elizabeth Leveille, Peggy and Steve Yuhas, Mary Agnes Morris, Shirley Schaefer, Joan Fulham, Marie English, Ed English, Lisa Grankowski, Gary Feret, Dane Colburn, Pete McIntyre.



February-WWW.? Charles Komar & Sons Factory, North Stevens Avenue



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**Frank Paczkowski**

Frank Paczkowski, 86, passed away peacefully on February 20, 2019. Frank was born April 6, 1932, in South Amboy, New Jersey, the oldest child of Frank and Helen Paczkowski. He and his late wife, Carolee, moved permanently to Naples in 1980. Frank will be lovingly remembered by his daughters, Carolee (Al) Steelman, Mary Beth (Mike) Ford, his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, his brothers, Raymond (Ela) Paczkowski, John (Teddy) Paczkowski, Stanley (Marge) Paczkowski, his baby sister, Helen (Warren) Eberle and his sister in law, Judy Paczkowski. He was predeceased by his parents, his wife, his son and his brother, Edmund. He leaves behind numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and close friends.

Frank was a master storyteller with a wealth of knowledge that he loved to impart to his family and anyone he encountered. He was gifted with the uncanny ability to play the piano, accordion and keyboard. He loved to entertain with his music and by singing the songs of his youth and his Polish heritage.

**OLV Senior Trip to the River Lady**

The OLV Senior Group is sponsoring a trip to the River Lady, a delightful luncheon cruise on July 30, 2019. The price of the trip is \$120 which includes deluxe motorcoach transportation, 2 ½ hour cruise with a full historical commentary and a delectable lunch, and all taxes and gratuities, and snacks on the bus. For further information or to reserve a seat please call Finita at 732-721-5081.

**Identity Theft and Fraud Prevention**

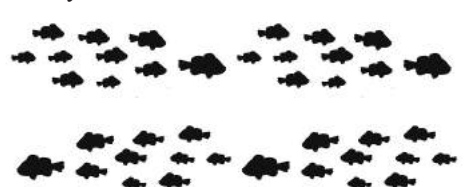
New Jersey Citizen Action will be presenting a program on identity theft and fraud prevention at Sayreville Public Library on Tuesday, April 2, at 11:00AM. Topics include phone scams, scams targeting seniors, IRS impostors, and scams currently targeting NJ residents.

Sayreville Library is located at 1050 Washington Rd., Parlin. This event is free and open to the public, but registration at [www.sayrevillelibrary.org](http://www.sayrevillelibrary.org) is suggested. Please also visit the Sayreville Public Library Events Calendar on our website at for more information.

**South Amboy Elks Fish Fry**

601 Washington Ave. 732-727-7170

Every Friday during Lent thru April 19 from 6pm to 8pm. We will be offering- Fish Platter, Shrimp Platter, Scallop Platter, Combo Platter, Fish Sandwich, Shrimp Cocktail, Steamed Clams and more, your choice, fried or broiled. All dinners Include- French Fries, Coleslaw, Soup, Desert, Coffee and Tea. Take out is available. Look for our weekly menu on Facebook & Public TV.





### First Anniversary in Heaven

*We thought of you today,  
But that is nothing new.*

*We thought of you yesterday  
And days before that too.*

*We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name.*

*All we have are memories and  
Your picture in a frame.*

*Your memory is a keepsake  
From which we'll never part.*

*God has you in His arms,  
We have you in our hearts.*



**Tony Charmello**  
July 3, 1952-March 15, 2018

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Wife - Karen, Children and Spouses.  
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Grandchildren,  
Brandy, Nick, Anna, Charlie, Angel & Ava  
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*Easter spells out beauty,  
the rare beauty of new life...*

S.D. Gordon

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## Sayreville Memorial

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### James J. Mulvey

James "Jim" Mulvey, 92, of Morgan died on Feb. 24. He led a very active life in the South Amboy/Sayreville communities in various organizations. Jim was past commander of the Sayreville VFW Post #4699 and American Legion Post #211. He also served as past district governor of Lions International. In addition, he was an honorary life member of the South Amboy Knights of Columbus Council #426, and also belonged to the Msgr. John F. Brady 4th Degree Assembly #676, South Amboy. Jim was the owner of Mulvey Electric for many years, and later was employed by the Raritan Valley Bus Co. and also the Middlesex County Surplus Building, Edison. Funeral Services were held from the Gundrum Service "Home For Funerals" on March 1.



### In Memoriam

Andrew "Andy" Sedlak, 95, formerly of Parlin died on Feb. 22. He was a Boy Scout Leader for several years and also a volunteer firefighter in Parlin. William Connors Sr., 69, of South Amboy died on Feb. 24. Before retiring in 2001, he was employed by the City of South Amboy, and also had worked at Hercules, Inc. Parlin for 28 years. He was a member of Boy Scout Troop 91, and also the American Outlaws Soccer Club, South Amboy. Bill was a great guy and will always be remembered. Matthew J. Lynch, 51, formerly of Sayreville died on Feb. 28. He was president of Sayreville War Memorial HS Class of '85, and lettered in 4 sports. In 1994, he moved to Poland, started a successful business LYNKA, and was president of a children's hospital foundation. Matt was a true champion of Polish-American relations. Mary Ann Smetana, 68, of Sayreville died on March 7. She was a Eucharistic Minister and sang in the church choir at Sacred Heart Church for many years. Mary Ann also was an executive secretary for NL Industries, assistant manager at Card-O-Rama, and loyal assistant for the last 19 years at Custom Financial Strategies. Cris Rosenvinge, 64, of Morgan died on March 7. Before retiring, he was a carpenter with NJ Carpenters Union Local 254 in Milltown. Chris was a Past Exalted Ruler of the South Amboy Elks. Paul "Boe" Soltys, 71, formerly of South Amboy died on March 16. He was a past president of the South Amboy Little League, and impacted many young lives with his passionate dedication to baseball, and shaping young boys into athletes and good young men. Paul served in the U.S. Navy from 1964-68 on the U.S.S. Enterprise, and in Vietnam. John Bacho Jr., 89, of South Amboy died on March 16. He worked for the U.S. Government at Fort Monmouth for 37 years prior to retiring. May God Bless them all.

### Obituaries

- Bacho, John Jr., 89, of South Amboy died on March 16.
- Becker, Louise Mauro, 85, of Sayreville died on March 2.
- Connors, William A. Sr., 69, of South Amboy died on Feb. 24.
- Dolan, Constance, 92, of Sayreville died on March 8.
- Dombrowski, George A., 86, of Parlin died on March 13.
- Lynch, Matthew J., 51, formerly of Sayreville died on Feb. 28.
- Marczak, Margaret "Peggy" Dill, 74, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 24.
- Mariano, Helen M. Covell, 93, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 19.
- McCoy, Jacqueline, 89, of Parlin died on Feb. 16.
- Mrvicin, Steven, 92, of South Amboy died on March 16.
- Mulvey, James J., 92, of Morgan died on Feb. 24.
- Ogborne, Virginia J., 83, of Parlin died on March 9.
- Paczkowski, Frank, 86, formerly of South Amboy died on Feb. 20.
- Parisio, Helen, 85, of Parlin died on March 11.
- Peschler, William, 85, of Sayreville died on March 13.
- Rosenvinge, Cris, 64, of Morgan died on March 7.
- Sedlak, Andrew A. Jr., 95, formerly of Parlin died on Feb. 22.
- Smetana, Mary Ann F. Gabel, 68, of Sayreville died on March 7.
- Soltys, Paul P. "Boe," 71, formerly of South Amboy died on March 16.
- Van Camp, Russell "Red," 85, of South Amboy died on Feb. 18.
- Ziskovitch, Boris, 81, of Laurence Harbor died on Feb. 22.





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- Vodka Pizza 14.95  
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*Broccoli, spinach, mushroom, onions, peppers & black olives*
- Meat Lovers Pizza 19.95  
*Pepperoni, sausage, ham & meatballs*
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- Chicken Broccoli Pizza 19.95

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- Broccoli 5.00
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*With mushrooms in Marsala wine sauce*
- Chicken Florentine 14.45  
*With fresh spinach in Alfredo sauce & topped with mozzarella*
- Chicken Fra Diavolo 14.45  
*In spicy marinara*
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*Breaded veal cutlet, tomato sauce & mozzarella*
- Veal Francese 17.95  
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- Sausage Parmigiana 13.95  
*With tomato sauce & mozzarella*
- Meatball Parmigiana 13.95  
*With tomato sauce & mozzarella*
- Shrimp Parmigiana 16.45  
*With tomato sauce & mozzarella*
- Shrimp Marinara 16.45
- Shrimp Fra Diavolo 16.45  
*In a spicy marinara sauce*
- Shrimp Francese 16.45  
*In a lemon white wine sauce*
- Shrimp Scampi 16.45  
*In a white wine & lemon sauce with fresh garlic*
- Seafood Combo 17.95  
*Clams, shrimp & calamari in a marinara sauce*
- Mussels Marinara 13.95
- Eggplant Parmigiana 13.95  
*With tomato sauce & mozzarella*

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# South Amboy St. Patrick's Parade - March 16, 2019



D.B. Kelly Pipes & Drums sounded great!



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A fabulous colorful String Band!



SA Mayor Fred Henry.



Deputy Grand Marshal Mike Toth.



Sayreville Council President Dan Buchanan waves to the crowd.



A view from the top!



Special Honored Guest Dr. Jorge Gonzalez-Gomez and his wife Rose.



D.B. Kelly Pipes & Drum, Bass Drummer Nelson Pagan.



The SA Middle/High School Band led by Music Teacher Veronica Alcurri.

Photos by Brian Stratton